

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMIR ARRIVES

PY131145 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1115 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Dec (TELAM) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir arrived at 0735 this morning for a 3-day official visit to the country. The visit will end on Thursday, when he will go to Montevideo, Uruguay.

During his stay in this capital, Shamir will hold meetings with his Argentine counterpart, Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari, meet with the president of the nation, Lt Gen Reynaldo Bignone, and hold a press conference.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON U.S. RELATIONS, OTHER TIES

PY112054 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1010 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (DYN) -- Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari has said that the "rebuilding of relations with the United States must be very gradual," but emphasized that Washington "wants" to rebuild its ties with Argentina and other Latin American nations.

Aguirre Lanari explained Argentina's foreign policy while answering questions a panel of three journalists asked freely during a television program, broadcast by Channel 13 last night.

Speaking about relations with the United States, Aguirre Lanari said that "we have experienced very difficult and sorrowful times," in the course of this relationship and added that he was surprised at the attitude of the United States when, "despite the irritated opposition of the United Kingdom," it voted in favor of the Latin American draft resolution recommending resumption of negotiations over the Malvinas Islands.

On Francis Pym's recent remarks to the effect that Chile had helped the United Kingdom during the South Atlantic conflict, Aguirre Lanari recalled the old saying "divide and conquer" and said that the United Kingdom wanted to divide the people of Latin America, but they remain united.

He said that relations with Bolivia "are excellent...relations are cordial. We respect each other. Argentina sees that Bolivia is engaged in a promising process and Bolivia views with sympathy our efforts to attain a goal that we will attain."

Aguirre Lanari added that the Argentine Government "is not concerned over what is going on in Bolivia. They will not meddle in our affairs, and we shall not meddle in theirs."

Further on, speaking about the Beagle conflict with Chile, the foreign minister said that "negotiations are underway at the Holy See under the mediation of the pope. Both Chile and ourselves want to reach a lasting agreement...."

When asked if Argentina is prepared to take over the role of Latin American leader, the foreign minister said that it was. He added that "taking into account our policy, which seeks to be independent within the framework of the part of the world to which we ideologically belong without being subordinate to it, and bearing in mind that Latin America is the part of the world to which we are bound by ties of affection, I do believe that Argentina is ready because the policy we are trying to implement embodies the feelings of the Argentine people."

He added that the Argentine people "are Latin Americans and they lean toward a democratic lifestyle, not because they are told to do so but because democracy is the expression of their desires, their decision and their destiny. Within this context, the Argentine people want a foreign policy subordinated to no other interests than their own."

Aguirre Lanari said that: "The fact that the peoples of our fraternal nations have always loved us, respected us, admired us and wanted to keep us as a favorite brother by their side should fill us with satisfaction, but it also implies obligations."

He went on to say: "We are reaping the fruits of a history of noble behavior when Argentina was much more powerful than other fraternal nations and when it invariably (?supported) these nations."

He added: "We must remain faithful to our commitments. Because of the Malvinas affair, we contracted considerable debts. Some of these debts are pleasant but others are not because they could force us into situations which may not always be desirable. However, in Latin America's specific case I can say that no Argentine will ever forget what Latin America did for us."

About Spain and its ties with NATO -- which supported Great Britain in the South Atlantic conflict -- Aguirre Lanari said: "Our relationship with Spain is permanent, above and beyond diplomatic ups and downs."

The questions then dealt with the recent River Plate Basin Conference in Brasilia and Aguirre Lanari was asked about the repercussions of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit and whether it would have an effect on continental relations. The foreign minister said that he did not wish to voice an opinion because the matter in question was a bilateral affair "within the framework of relations which Latin American countries maintain, in keeping with their sovereign right to implement their own policies."

He said that his personal opinion is that Reagan's visit "was aimed at rebuilding relations with certain countries and with Latin America through them. However, as far as Brazil's foreign policy goes, I have the impression that it will not change. Brazil is a mature nation and its foreign policy is very well calculated.... Brazil follows an independent policy aimed at defending national interests...."

BIGNONE COMMENTS ON RECENT GENERAL STRIKE

PY101741 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Interview with President Bignone on his return from observing flooded areas of Chaco Province, 8 December; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr President: Regarding the recent strike which, according to the interior minister, was practically total, in other words, the government itself acknowledged that it was a success where not only the workers participated, but also shopkeepers and industrialists -- is it not your belief that it is time for the government to revise its overall policies?

[Answer] The government sees no reason why it should make any revisions as a result of a strike. The government and I believe that no one can say -- consciously, without hurting his conscience -- I believe that no one can say that this government is without feeling, or that this government is deaf. In order to listen, this government does not need a strike, in no way.

I believe that this government has demonstrated enough feeling, and it has shown that it has sufficient capacity for dialogue and respect for everyone that it does not need measures of this kind to carry out certain changes in its course of action.

The government -- because we are human and this does not only happen to the government; I believe it happens to all of us precisely because we are human -- makes mistakes and mistakes can be corrected. Why not? Corrective measures can be adopted. Why not? The government adopted them before the strike and on more than one occasion.

Therefore the government will continue with this conduct; it will continue to listen and it will continue to rectify what has to be rectified, but it will remain firm, without changing its course of action, the course that it has outlined, which is the goal of institutionalization, and constitutionalization while trying, not only to make it solid, but also to improve the economic and social situation.

I will never tire of repeating that this is not done overnight; that would be an empty promise and I do not make empty promises.

[Question] Within these changes, is there any possibility that any of the governors might leave their posts?

[Answer] No, in no way. As a change no. If some governor leaves his post, it will be because that governor wants to leave so that he can go into politics, as more than one has already done, or because he has to leave for personal reasons.

The government has not planned, as a rectification, the withdrawal of any of the governors.

[Question] This is rather a hot December, Mr President, we have the mobilization that has been called for by the multiparty group on 16 December. Specifically, does this concern the government?

[Answer] The government's only concern is that the demonstration be as peaceful as all the demonstrations that have been carried out up to now and that the goals that it wants to achieve be peaceful ones. We are absolutely certain that this is what will happen and therefore, there is no major concern. It is just another political demonstration and I repeat, not only for the health of this government, but, fundamentally, for the future constitutional government.

It is my belief that we must become accustomed to the fact that these events take place during absolutely democratic governments, which is something we want to achieve and that is why I have said that this helps not only this government, but also the health of future governments. That is why none of us should be alarmed about this type of demonstration.

WEHBE SAYS ECONOMIC POLICY WILL BE MAINTAINED

PY111903 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0030 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (NA) -- Economy Minister Jorge Wehbe tonight installed Ismael Alchourron and Victor Poggi as the new finance secretary and economy under secretary, respectively. Speaking at the swearing-in ceremony, Wehbe said that "despite the difficult current situation, the economic strategy will be maintained."

Wehbe stated that "the changes introduced in the economic team will not result in changes in the guidelines for the 1983 national budget, which envisages a 2.2 percent deficit in the gross domestic product."

AIR FORCE COMMUNIQUE DENIES JET PURCHASE

PY102050 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1804 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (DYN) -- The Air Force officially denied this afternoon the purchase of air materiel and added that the institution has not made any purchases since the end of hostilities in the South Atlantic. The communique tacitly refers to press reports published recently that the Air Force had purchases Xavante jets from Brazil. That report was denied yesterday by Air Force sources.

The official communique, released at 1430 today, states:

"Regarding reports coming from abroad about negotiations for the purchase or acquisition of air materiel for the Argentine Air Force, the commander in chief states:

"That since the end of the war in the South Atlantic, the Argentine Air Force has made no purchases or initiated any negotiations for the purchase of aircraft.

"That the Air Force, aware of the economic-financial situation and of the country's foreign debt, has postponed its necessary reequipment.

"The Air Force reports in this regard, that any purchase of materiel earmarked for the armed forces must first be handled and approved by the military junta."

PROTEST MARCH CONCLUDES WITH 'MINOR INCIDENTS'

PY102128 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1628 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 10 Dec (NA) -- The "resistance march" organized by three groups of defenders of human rights demanding that "the arrested and missing persons appear alive," concluded today with some minor incidents.

The march was held without interruption, beginning at 1500 [1800 GMT] yesterday, along Avenida de Mayo between Peru and Chacabuco streets, because of the strong security measures adopted by the police to prevent the demonstrators from reaching the Plaza de Mayo.

BRIEFS

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS -- Ushuaia, 8 Dec (TELAM) -- Commander Anatol Juan Tarapow today took over as the new commander of the patrol boats unit. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1940 GMT 8 Dec 82 PY] Parana, 2 Dec (TELAM) -- Col Edel Oscar Martinez Viademonte was sworn in today as commander of the 2d Air Brigade. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1346 GMT 2 Dec 82 PY] Mendoza, 3 Dec (DYN) -- Brig Gen Carlos Alberto de Blasis today took over as commander of the 4th Air Brigade headquartered in El Plumerillo, Mendoza. [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1310 GMT 3 Dec 82 PY] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM) -- Capt Domingo Ramon Negrete was installed today as the new director of the National Defense School. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1423 GMT 3 Dec 82 PY]

YOUTH COMMITTEE SEIZES SANTA CRUZ RADIO STATIONS

Repudiates Siles' Visit

PY102033 Paris AFP in Spanish 2011 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 10 Dec (AFP) -- A command of the Santa Cruz Youth Committee, guided by the rightist Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB], has seized Radio Grigota and called the people of Santa Cruz to go out into the streets to repudiate President Hernan Siles Zuazo's visit to the city. You who are Cambas [Camba -- name given to the citizen of Santa Cruz] and who are mature, come to Radio Grigota to repudiate the visit of Siles Zuazo, the tyrant and murderer of the people of Santa Cruz, one of the occupants of the local radio station stated.

Action 'Unsuccessful'

PY110044 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2330 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Relay from Santa Cruz by (Jorge Guzman)]

[Excerpt] The occupation by rightist groups of the Santa Cruz radio stations Grigota and Willy Bendeck and the call for a demonstration rejecting President Siles' (?visit to Santa Cruz) have not been successful, since tranquillity prevails in this city. Today, supporters of Dr Siles Zuazo's administration staged a demonstration of support at 14 de Septiembre Square in Santa Cruz. The radio stations Grigota and Willy Bendeck [words indistinct] asking the Santa Cruz community to hold a demonstration. However, the call was not successful.

Situation Normal

PY110126 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpts] A climate of absolute calm prevails in the city of Santa Cruz, although members of the Regional Development Corporation [as heard] youth have seized different radio stations to express their repudiation of the constitutional government of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP]. President Hernan Siles Zuazo was attending the graduation ceremony of noncommissioned officers of the military and air force school.

[Begin relayed report from Santa Cruz] At approximately 1430, when the main ceremony was practically over, but in the presence of a large number of people who came from the northern part of the department, members of the Santa Cruz Youth Committee seized Radio Grigota, which belongs to Mr (Ortega), from where they have been broadcasting, or rather they continue broadcasting slogans against the president of the republic. The same thing happened yesterday with the television station, through which the Youth Committee transmitted a document stating that the chief of state has written a black page in the history of the coexistence of the people of Santa Cruz.

For a while, this station was asking other stations to join the network, but most stations are continuing with their normal broadcasts to avoid any problems. We can say that Radio Panamericana has been able to note the presence of military troops at the building where Radio Maritima is located. These troops belong to the Montero regiment. I repeat, everything is calm in Santa Cruz, and activities are absolutely normal. [end recording]

Rumors of Siles Abduction Denied

PY102103 La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish 2035 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] [Intercepted in progress] arrived today to attend the closing of the school year at the Lt Col German Busch Military Aviation School. According to reports from that city [Santa Cruz de la Sierra], a meeting is going on at the guest house of Bolivian Government Oil Deposits. The president arrived there about noon and, after attending the ceremony at the above-mentioned military training institute, he gave a speech in which he stressed aspects of domestic policy.

This completely refutes the rumor which began circulating this afternoon, saying that constitutional President Hernan Siles Zuazo had been taken hostage by a political group in Santa Cruz.

COMMITTEE ON MISSING PERSONS INSTALLED

PY102000 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1723 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] La Paz, 10 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Bolivian Government today installed a committee designated especially to investigate the whereabouts of approximately 130 persons who disappeared during the military regimes in this country. The committee, which is made up of representatives of the executive and legislative branches, of the human rights commission and of labor organizations, was organized on the occasion of human rights day, which is celebrated today.

Interior Minister Mario Roncal stated during a speech that the task of investigating will be very difficult because in the cases of missing persons there is an express desire to conceal those who carry out the acts and make up the repressive apparatus of the dictatorships. He said that the persons responsible for the missing persons must be tried by the regular court and that they cannot appeal to any court of honor or to any law.

The association of relatives of missing persons in Bolivia presented to the press a list of almost 130 persons whose whereabouts have been unknown since they were detained under several military regimes, including those of Gen Hugo Banzer, Col Alberto Natusch and General Garcia Meza.

Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo attended last night the premier of the movie "Missing," by Greek film maker Costa Gavras, shown here to obtain funds to allow the commission in charge of investigating the missing persons to begin their activities.

Present at the premiere also were relatives of missing Bolivian politicians, who grouped themselves in an association with the aim of finding their loved ones.

EEC TO DONATE 5,000 TONS OF WHEAT FROM JANUARY

PY121934 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1449 GMT 8 Dec 82

[Summary] La Paz, 8 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- EEC representatives currently visiting Bolivia have announced that the EEC will donate 5,000 tons of wheat to Bolivia as part of an emergency cooperation plan. The first shipment of wheat will arrive in January.

STROESSNER MAKES CAMPAIGN SPEECH IN PILAR

PY112211 Asuncion Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Speech by President Gen Alfredo Stroessner during presidential campaign in Pilar -- live]

[Excerpts] Fellow party members: I cordially greet all the members of the Colorado Party and all the inhabitants of the Department of Neembucu, a generous land in which heroes who stood out for their courage and patriotism were born.

I agreed to become the candidate for the presidency after a thorough consideration of the responsibilities entailed in this post with which I have been honored. It proves that my fellow party members are convinced that I have not let them down nor will I do so. [applause, cheers]

A weak government cannot defend democracy, therefore, we act with all the necessary force against the enemies of peace. This is how one prevents subsequent massacres and reprisals.

The National Constitution prohibits the preaching of hatred among the Paraguayan citizenry. It is correct that all the force of the law should be implemented against those who intend to poison the peaceful and democratic life of the nation with their offenses and wickedness. [applause]

Complete freedom prevails for the working and honest man, but there is no freedom nor will there ever be any for the terrorists. And we clearly warn those who may be involved in any attempt at subversion, which is contrary to the law, [applause] democracy and the views of the Paraguayan people, to beware. [applause]

The legally established political parties have full guarantees to function.

We, Colorado Party members, are ready to defeat the communist cadres in any field and with the greatest force. We will confront without hesitation and will thwart all plots organized by Marxist aggression, groups of murderers, cowards and mercenaries. [applause]

The state of siege provided for by the National Constitution is to be implemented against terrorists and crafty individuals who lack any representativity, who try to disturb order and tranquillity. We will squash them with all the force of the Constitution and the laws. We are alert and will not lower our guard at any time. [lengthy applause]

Certain individuals, who lack any representativity and the people's support, engage in illegal, antidemocratic and totalitarian behavior, ducking elections as if they wanted to duck their own conscience because they are aware that they will only meet the categorical and definite rejection of the voters in the ballot boxes. [applause]

RADICAL LIBERAL LEADER DOMINGO LAINO ARRESTED

PA102035 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Police officers of the Paraguayan regime arrested Domingo Laino in Asuncion without explaining the reasons for such a move. Laino is the vice president of the opposition Radical Liberal Party.

The repressive agents of General Stroessner's dictatorship also confiscated all copies of Laino's book "The Merchant General" [el general comerciante], which was scheduled to go on sale today, Friday. The book speaks of the Nicaraguan tyrant Anastasio Somoza Debayle, who was killed in Asuncion on 17 September 1980.

Also in Asuncion, (Sergio Franco Becker), leader of the Radical Liberal Party, charged that in Paraguay the de jure state established by the Constitution does not exist because the media are monopolized by the regime and the people are continuously subjected to repression.

PLRA Communique

PY101655 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 10 Dec 82 p 9

[Text] The Authentic Liberal Radical Party (PLRA) board issued a communique yesterday in which it gives details on Laino's arrest and the confiscation of his book. In the communique, the PLRA "repudiates these arbitrary actions" and denies rumors circulating yesterday that stated that Laino was not the author of the book.

The communique, which is signed by Juan M. Benitez Florentin, and Miguel A. Saguier, notes that the police raid was conducted without a court order and that in addition to confiscating copies of the book, the police also confiscated other books, folders, correspondence, and private papers. The communique adds that "these actions are in violation of rights such as the inviolability of homes and of private property, the right of intellectual freedom, freedom of expression, the inviolability of private correspondence and papers." The communique states that Laino was arrested without a court order and that he is being held incommunicado. It charges that Mrs Laino was detained and that she was questioned under strong pressure at the police investigations department. The PLRA communique also states that the police raided the "Omega" printshop and that they confiscated several issues of the book "The Merchant General" and that they arrested Enrique Velilla.

The communique notes that Benitez and Saguier were also detained when they went to the police investigations department to find out why Laino was arrested and that while they were doing this "the police also raided their homes." The PLRA adds that "the house of Susana Gandra de Bogado was also raided by the police with the objective of confiscating issues of Laino's book."

After repudiating "all the raids," the PLRA board "denies the absurd rumor, which has been attributed to official sources, that Laino is not the author of the book and that it was allegedly written in Nicaragua. Such a lie can only be in keeping with the ultimate objective of confusing the public and of covering up a new persecution against Laino which is another obscurantist attack against cultural freedom.

COMMUNIST PARTY CALLS FOR ANTIDICTATORIAL FRONT

PA111656 Havana International Service in Spanish 000 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpt] The daily ADELANTE, organ of the Paraguayan Communist Party, has called on the Paraguayan people to create an antidictatorial front to struggle against oppression, backwardness and abuse. The daily, which circulates illegally in Asuncion, also charged that Alfredo Stroessner's plan to have himself reelected president for the sixth time has the approval of the armed forces and of the United States. The daily states that in order to put an end to election farces and to win political freedom and social progress there is no other alternative but the overthrow of the fascist and pro-U.S. dictatorship.

SCHWALB TO REPLACE ULLOA AS PRIME MINISTER

PY122118 Paris AFP in Spanish 1959 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] Lima, 12 Dec (AFP) -- Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde announced today that Prime Minister Manuel Ulloa will be replaced by Fernando Schwalb Lopez Aldana, the present Peruvian ambassador to the United States, in the first weeks of January.

After praising for his heroic actions Ayacucho Mayor Jorge Jaureguy Mejia, who was shot on Saturday by alleged terrorists, President Belaunde reviewed the great damage that terrorists are causing in the country and announced that the armed forces will have a greater participation in the struggle against terrorism.

In his usual Sunday press conference, Belaunde noted that Cabinet changes do not mean that there is a cabinet crisis. He said that these are normal changes. He said that Schwalb Lopez Aldana will also replace Ulloa as economy, finance and commerce minister. After noting that Ulloa made the commitment to occupy the post for only 2 years, Belaunde said that he has my support because he tried to overcome the difficult economic situation the country is experiencing and particularly because he wanted to discuss and promote the present budget in congress.

Asked several times who will replace Ulloa, Belaunde said: It is no secret that Ambassador Schwalb is a close adviser and that if he is by my side I will be able to travel more throughout the country. He will be of great help to me.

Asked whether there will be other cabinet changes, Belaunde said: "We are studying several names. However, there will be continuity in our objective to overcome the crisis without causing harm to the people and continuity in the undertakings that are underway."

WAR MATERIEL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ARGENTINA

PY102133 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1723 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Lima, 10 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Peruvian war minister confirmed that Peru and Argentina today signed an agreement to manufacture war materiel.

A press spokesman told this agency that the document was signed a few minutes before Argentine Commander in Chief Cristino Nicolaides was decorated by his Peruvian counterpart, Gen Francisco Miranda Ampuero.

On his part, Luis Sanchez Moreno, Argentine ambassador to Peru, denied that Peru has sold or is about to sign an agreement to transfer 10 French-made Mirage-5 combat planes to Argentina. In a talk with newsmen, the diplomat stated that those reports are not true, that they are unfounded because Argentina has not purchased any planes from Peru.

Reports from Buenos Aires that were published in Lima had described an alleged sale of war planes, so that the Argentine Air Force could replace the planes it lost during the conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas islands.

The Argentine-Peruvian agreement to manufacture war materiel was signed in one of the rooms of the War Ministry this morning by the representatives of the General Directorate of Military Manufactures of Argentina, and of Military Industries of Peru (Indumil), a source stated.

The source also stated that the document establishes that the two countries will give technical assistance to each other, and that a plant to manufacture war materiel will be built. However, the source declined to disclose the place where the plant will be built.

A Lima daily reported yesterday that the document provides for reciprocal technical assistance, advice and training; marketing of finished products; exchange of research and development activities; purchase of machinery, equipment and tools; manufacture of prototypes; etc.

General Nicolaides will return to Argentina tomorrow. The Argentine Army commander in chief arrived in Lima to participate in the ceremony held yesterday to commemorate the 158th anniversary of the battle of Ayacucho. After the ceremony, the Argentine military officer decorated General Miranda with the order of liberator General Jose de San Martin in the Grade of Grand Cross.

COLUMNIST: POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE DETERIORATING

PY101534 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 3 Dec 82 p 2

[From the "Voice and Vote" column by Manuel d'Ornellas]

[Excerpts] Is the political atmosphere deteriorating?

An accelerated aggravation of political tensions has been taking place in the past few days not only in the labor unions -- with an increase in the number of labor conflicts -- but also in the relations between the various parties.

The increasing harassment of the government by some persons and groups which actively participated in the military and dictatorial regime is contributing to the deterioration of the political atmosphere. People who live in countries with a population explosion are bound -- for biological reasons -- to have short memories. [as published] For this reason, some people are listening to the latest statement by General Mercado Jarrin criticizing Peru's foreign debt, to the affront staged by the former leaders of [former Peruvian president] Velasco Alvarado's Sinamos [National System for Support to Social Mobilization] against the executive branch -- which respects freedom -- and even to the contentions by a former interior minister of the previous regime, General Velit, who is claiming to be a victim of revenge of the Belaunde administration, and who calls himself a "political prisoner."

When did this aggravation of political tensions start?

Either by chance or by design the political atmosphere started to become tense with the appointment of Alan Garcia Perez as secretary general of the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance (APRA). Young Garcia, probably more on purpose than by chance, introduced a new style within the Aprista Party of Peru (PAP) which consists in attacking President Belaunde directly -- and his ministers only indirectly -- for all the troubles which this government has in store for the country.

BRIEFS

RADIO BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION -- The first national radio and television convention scheduled to close today has decided to create the Single Radio Broadcasting Association by merging the Peruvian Radio Broadcasting Association and the Union of Provincial Radio Stations. The convention was attended by 150 representatives from as many radio stations. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Nov 82 p A8 PY]

PRESIDENT DENIES UGUETO RESIGNED OVER POLICY

PA101408 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Excerpts] President Luis Herrera Campins has said that he agrees with the creation of Vargas State so that the central coastal area can overcome some of its problems. He said it is deplorable that this project is facing certain legal and parliamentary problems.

The president made these remarks on occasion of the inauguration of several projects in [name indistinct] sector, in Catia la Mar where he also said that many politicians don't understand his visits to the neighborhoods because they believe the president should only inaugurate projects in the large cities. However, Herrera Campins reiterated that he is the president of all Venezuelans and particularly of the poor.

[Begin Herrera Campins recording] The projects are very important for the popular sectors which have been suffering calamities and [word indistinct] for many years until the advent of a government like the one I head which is beginning to satisfy these environmental needs. These projects not only change the neighborhood but also offer more possibilities for (?spiritual) renewal. [end recording]

President Herrera Campins also denied the rumor that Finance Minister Luis Ugueto resigned because of disagreements with the financial policy of the present administration.

SOSA: NO CHANGES, WILL FOLLOW CENTRAL BANK

PA102307 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2034 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Caracas, 10 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Arturo Sosa, the new Venezuelan finance minister, said he does not intend to make any important changes in Venezuela's economic policy, and that he will follow the monetary strategies adopted by the Central Bank of Venezuela. Sosa, who took office today, added that he sees no reason to change policies which, as in the case of curbing inflation, have yielded good results. He said that one of his initial tasks will be to conclude negotiations for refinancing the public sector's \$8.7 billion debt. The negotiations were begun by his predecessor Luis Ugueto.

Ugueto apparently resigned over differences with Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual, the president of the Central Bank, on matters of policy. It is believed that he was opposed to the government's intervening the Workers Bank last week. This bank is one of the main banks in the country, and has been affected by a liquidity crisis. The intervention gave rise to a wave of union protests.

Sosa, a 58-year-old lawyer and financier, was formerly finance minister in the emergency junta of the Venezuelan Government following the overthrow of dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez in 1958. The new minister said he hopes to work in close harmony with Diaz Bruzual, whom he described as a childhood friend.

Diaz Bruzual has stressed up until now the need to continue strict monetary policies to keep inflation low.

Sosa, whose appointment has been well received in business circles, denied that other commercial banks are having liquidity problems.

Ugueto, a civil engineer, had been finance minister since President Luis Herrera Campins took office in March 1979 and is credited with having been the architect of the administration's anti-inflationary policies, by freeing price controls and reducing import duties.

PESO DEVALUED BY 40 PERCENT AGAINST DOLLAR

PAL10059 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0048 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Dec (EFE) -- Today the Mexican Government devalued its national currency by 40 percent in relation to the dollar in their controlled foreign exchange market.

This is the third devaluation of the Mexican peso thus far this year. Beginning Monday [as received] a free exchange system will be established. This was announced by financial authorities, who so far have not established [as received] the new parity.

BANK DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES NEW EXCHANGE SYSTEM

PAL10353 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] The director of the Bank of Mexico, Miguel Mancera, has announced [words indistinct] of the new exchange policy that will take effect on 20 December. The new measures include the creation of two parallel exchange markets, a free exchange market and another market that will be under government control. This will lead to new exchange rates for the Mexican peso.

The director of the Bank of Mexico said that the exchange rate of the controlled market is still under study, but he said that its level must respond not only to the development of the prices in Mexico and the rest of the world, especially in the United States, but also to the need to promote a structural change in the economy.

He also reported that in the free market the operations will take place at the exchange rate that the contracting parties decide. He admitted that for some time there will be a considerable difference between the controlled exchange rate and the free parity. He said that this difference will tend to be reduced as the program of economic adjustment advances, and the time will come when the respective quotations will converge.

Mancera indicated that the free exchange rate will probably be higher than the controlled exchange rate. However, he said that it will offer considerable advantages over the operations that currently take place in the country's black market or in the peso market in the United States. He stressed that the participants in the free exchange market will be acting within the law. He also said that the temporarily high exchange rate in the free market will encourage the return of capital to the country and discourage new flight of capital.

The director of the Bank of Mexico also said that the temporary measures in the decree that will go into effect on 20 December include the following: The Commerce Secretariat will abolish the restrictions imposed on the import and export of national and foreign currency in order to eliminate the distrust of tourists who visit our country and the difficulties that the current exchange control has caused in the northern border region.

Inside the national territory the payment of obligations in foreign currency contracted prior to the effective date of the decree will be settled by turning over in Mexican pesos the equivalent of a special exchange rate that the Bank of Mexico will determine in accordance with the characteristics of the commitments.

Mancera announced that the Bank of Mexico will establish a system of [words indistinct] of foreign exchange that will protect debtors who owe money to foreign suppliers and financial institutions, as long as they are long-term credits or are restructured so that they will be due in the long term. He explained that the exchange rate applicable in these cases will be lower than the controlled market rate, so as to prevent the debtor enterprises from falling into insolvency or a precarious financial situation. Mancera stressed that the coverage will not be free, since, he said, the Federal Government cannot continue to give subsidies, and, therefore, its cost must be covered with payments throughout the period of the operation. The Bank of Mexico director said that in this way the serious problem of the private foreign debt can be solved with the cooperation of the officials of the foreign creditors, who extend the terms, and the debtors, who will have to pay the cost of the exchange loss, but gradually rather than all of a sudden.

For the credits that cannot be restructured, the Bank of Mexico will sell dollars for delivery within the next 24 months in exchange for the immediate presentation of the equivalent in the national currency estimated at the controlled exchange rate. He added that exporters will be given additional incentives by permitting them to allocate up to 20 percent of their income from foreign trade to settle the overdue and unpaid debts they have contracted with foreign suppliers and by permitting them to use the balance of their compensation accounts.

He also announced that the foreign currency bank accounts will continue in operation for diplomatic and consular representations, international organizations, foreign citizens who work in those institutions and foreign correspondents from outside the country, [word indistinct] enterprises and enterprises in the border region.

Payment orders for travellers leaving the country that were issued prior to this decree will be liquidated according to their terms. Travelers who want to buy foreign currency in the banks can do so by acquiring travelers checks, drafts or payment orders in the offices established by banks for this purpose anywhere in the national territory.

The director of the Bank of Mexico warned that it should not be expected that the exchange system will produce miracles. However, he forecast that by encouraging the development of exports, there will be more foreign exchange to import what the country needs at the same time that the heavy burden of the foreign debt will decrease in relative terms. All of this, he concluded, will lead to greater maneuvering room in the development of production and employment to the benefit of the Mexican population.

Reaction To New System

PA121350 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2132 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Mexico, 11 Dec (EFE) -- There is some dubiousness in Mexico in regard to the peso's new exchange rate against the U.S. dollar, following yesterday's decision by the Mexican Government on a new exchange system, which is to be more flexible and which will become effective on 20 December.

The new measure, according to statements by Finance Secretary Jesus Silva Herzog and Miguel Mancera, director of the (Central) Bank of Mexico, seeks to eliminate the international "black market" in dollars and pesos.

The newspaper EXCELSIOR (independent) commented in an editorial today that this measure "constitutes an act by which the state is legitimizing a situation that has become ensconced in practice, given that it is impossible to improve the rigorous control that was originally contemplated, in view of the proliferation of the black market and the free exchange in the border area."

UNO MAS UNO (leftwing) commented that this decision "amounts to a total change in the policy adopted by former President Jose Lopez Portillo 3 months ago." It adds that "the real need to bring dollars into the country has led to the adoption of a monetary policy whereby the exchange controls, which at one point ended speculation and the drain of foreign exchange abroad, are being incrementally rescinded." According to this newspaper, "the decision to return to the exchange process may prove to be unwise, given that it led us to the situation in which we now find ourselves: without reserves, without credit and with overdue debts."

EL UNIVERSAL (progovernment) noted that the government made this decision because of "our changing economic needs and the poor results of the general exchange controls."

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Marxist United Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) said that the establishment of free exchange will mean "a return to the drain in reserves, speculation and protection for those who remove dollars."

Finally, Emilio Goicochea Luna, leader of the National Confederation of Chamber of Commerce, commented that "the painful consequences of some of the measures taken by the current government are a result of errors committed by the former administration."

RENEGOTIATION OF FOREIGN DEBT REQUESTED

PA120511 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0146 GMT 12 Dec 82

[By Simon Alterman]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 11 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- Finance Secretary Jesus Silva Herzog said today that Mexico has asked its creditor banks to renegotiate \$20 billion of its foreign debt in what he described as the most complex single financial operation in history.

Improvising rather than reading from his prepared speech to Congress to present the next government budget, the secretary announced that yesterday he had sent messages to more than 1,400 banks throughout the world asking for a renegotiation of the short-term foreign debt.

He said that in the message he asked for the extension of the short-term debt into the medium term, over a period of 8 years, with a 4-year grace period in which no principal would be repaid.

In addition, he asked the banks to lend Mexico an additional \$5 billion in 1983.

"We are talking about a complex operation -- probably the most complex single financial operation ever made in the financial history of the world," he said.

Mexico has not repaid any of the principal of its foreign debt since August, when the financial crisis caused by the drop in oil prices was followed by a shortage of foreign currency, which did not permit it to service the debt.

Silva Herzog said that at the present time Mexico's foreign debt amounts to \$83 billion, of which \$61 billion is owed by the government, \$8 billion is owed by the 53 banks nationalized in September and the remaining \$14 billion is owed by private enterprise.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS NEW U.S. TRADE BARRIERS

PA122229 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] The Mexican Government has rejected the new trade barriers imposed by the United States, which require that compensatory taxes be levied on Mexican products.

The Mexican Commerce Secretariat issued a communique pointing out that Mexico has reiterated its legitimate right to stimulate its exports as a way of promoting and increasing its economic and social development. The communique adds that as a developing nation, Mexico has the right to stimulate the export of its products according to international trade regulations.

SENATE REJECTS U.S. LAW ON MIGRANT WORKERS

PA091712 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] The Mexican Senate is to present a protest at all international forums requesting solidarity from the world's parliaments in rejecting the Simpson-Mazzoli law passed by the U.S. Congress, which is considered a discriminatory attack on Mexican migrant workers.

[Words indistinct] peasant leader Eladio Ramirez Lopez the Senate pointed out that as a result of this law, Mexican agricultural workers will be left completely unprotected and exposed to the worst abuse.

In one of its points, the Simpson-Mazzoli law prohibits migrant workers from using any U.S. public service, even though the laborers have to pay taxes. Legislator (Ramiro Fletes) said that this law gives the immigration officials an unprecedented degree of power, which counteracts the search for peaceful and just political solutions.

Editorial Scores Law

PA112323 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Editorial by Jorge Bustamante: "Simpson-Mazzoli Law: Unacceptable"]

[Text] The United States is the only country in the world whose immigration laws specifically permit employers to hire foreign workers without identity papers. This is no accident. It is the legal basis for an invention that is more productive than the assembly line that made Henry Ford famous. This invention is: Any worker without identification is a wetback.

By allowing the employment of those who enter the country without identity papers looking for work, the demand for a certain type of labor is being encouraged: The labor force of persons without identity papers. These are workers who live in Mexico but know that there is a job for them in the United States, even if they don't have immigration documents. When they cross the border, they become a labor supply that responds to the specific demand for persons without identity papers.

When they are hired, they do not receive the basic rights granted other workers in the United States. They are not entitled to a minimum wage, an 8-hour day, salary payments on time, etc. They are workers because they work, but they don't enjoy workers rights. This is the invention.

The ingenious U.S. people have invented a worker who works but who can make no claims as a worker, because he cannot turn to the police or the courts to seek justice. The invention does not end here. They try to make us believe that these persons without identity papers are harmful to them and that we Mexicans are to blame because we have too many people. They have put us in the dock and have blamed us for sending to them some sort of disease.

The invention is even more ingenious. They take advantage of the labor force of Mexicans without identity papers who take jobs that U.S. workers don't want because it is better for the U.S. workers to take advantage of unemployment compensation than to work under the conditions and for the salary that the persons without identity papers work.

Thus the employers get workers who cannot protest working conditions, but who solve a labor problem. In addition to this, the United States complains to us in Mexico for sending persons without identity papers instead of paying us for what they are receiving.

This invention is perfect. It will be surpassed only when they invent a robot costing less than what they pay Mexicans without identity papers. But now they want to add the Simpson-Mazzoli bill on immigration to their earlier invention. This bill is about to be approved in Washington. This bill's objective is making the U.S. people believe that the persons without documents are responsible for the high U.S. unemployment rate. Many people believe this lie because they think that the people without identity papers compete for all the jobs available in the United States. The truth is however, that they find work only in the worst-paying, dirtiest and most difficult positions.

Nevertheless, the Simpson-Mazzoli bill is being promoted as a solution to unemployment in the United States by expelling those without identity papers. They will not be silly enough to expel them all, but in Mexico we are not up to having people chased out and forced to return, because enough is enough.

The Simpson-Mazzoli bill is the beginning of what could be a new economic attack on Mexico. This measure will make working without identity papers a more serious crime and will force the workers to labor for an even lower wage.

Undoubtedly, in this "good-neighbor" affair, we continue being "good" and they are just the "neighbor."

BRIEFS

SENATE OVERTURNS APPOINTMENT -- Mexico City, 10 Dec (NOTIMEX) -- The Mexican Senate today refused to confirm the appointment made by former President Jose Lopez Portillo naming Carlos Ferrer Argote as Mexico's ambassador to Ethiopia because Ferrer Argote failed to appear before the legislators according to established Mexican law. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2146 GMT 10 Dec 82 FL]

COSTA RICAVOLIO REJECTS SANDINIST GOVERNMENT 'INSULT'

PA120519 San Jose Radio Beloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] [Foreign Minister Fernando] Volio has protested the Sandinist insult. He has protested strongly and vigorously the new insult against President Monge Alvarez by the Sandinist government, which has said that Monge is extremely subservient to the U.S. Government. This was stated by Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez this afternoon.

The insult to the president of the republic is also an affront to the Costa Rican people and to the country, Volio Jimenez added, noting that this attitude by the Sandinist government demonstrates insincerity in wanting a detente with Costa Rica. Volio said the Sandinists invent numerous commissions for detente, such as the latest one proposed by the parliamentarians to [word indistinct] the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry. Volio Jimenez wondered what parliamentarians they will send if all they have are commanders.

The Sandinist accusations are totally false. In another part of his statement, Volio Jimenez said: I also reject other accusations contained in the official Sandinist government bulletin, because they are totally false.

If they want good relations with Costa Rica, they must be respectful toward our president and our rights, as in the case of the San Juan River, Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez reiterated.

In conclusion, he said that proof of the falsity of the Nicaraguan charges is the report by Government Minister Alfonso Carlos Zuniga on the alleged aggression staged by Costa Rica in promoting attacks against the township of Cardenas in the border region. Another report indicated that no evidence was found that there had been an attack, as was charged by the Sandinist government.

MONGE, VOLIO ON CARIBBEAN BASIN PLAN VOTE

PA120624 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1630 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] San Jose, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez were very pleased with the approval by the U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee of the two final proposals of the U.S. plan for the Caribbean.

Foreign Minister Volio said today that for the past 30 years "the Latin Americans have struggled to lift the tariff barriers for our export products, and now the first step has been taken in that direction."

Volio expressed the hope of Monge's government that the U.S. House of Representatives would support the complete Caribbean plan which, in one of its paragraphs, "grants incentives to U.S. enterprises that wish to invest in our country according to our own development plans."

He also said that with the approval of the Caribbean Basin plan by the Ways and Means Committee, "the United States has made a real advance in its relations with the countries of the hemisphere."

OPPOSITION FIGURES COMMENT ON REAGAN VISIT

PA112132 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 6 Dec 82 p 6-A

[Text] A businessman and two political leaders of the opposition described as positive U.S. President Reagan's visit to Costa Rica on Friday and Saturday.

The president of the Costa Rican Union of Private Enterprise Chambers and Associations, Armando Guardia Villalaz, and the chief and deputy chief of the Unity Party's parliamentary bloc, Rolando Lacle Castro and Dr Jorge Arturo Monge Zamora, respectively, agreed that the results of the visit will benefit Costa Rica.

Nevertheless, Lacle Castro warned about raising hopes too high because he believes the U.S. Government is concentrating its aid for all of Central America and the Caribbean within the framework of Reagan's Caribbean Basin plan.

In his meetings with our government officials, Reagan promised, among other things, to help negotiate our foreign debt and to cooperate in the development of the northern area. He also promised to sign a new tuna agreement as well as another to promote investment.

The U.S. chief executive was in the country 19 hours. He met with Monge and his ministers. He also met with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana.

Armando Guardia said he attended several meetings with President Reagan and was able to confirm that the visit reaffirmed the bonds of friendship and the broad and absolute support President Reagan gives our republican and democratic governmental system.

He said he was able to verify the U.S. President's interest in offering all possible cooperation to help Costa Rica overcome its present crisis.

Guardia added that Reagan was quite specific in saying that the Caribbean Basin Initiative has a good chance of being approved by Congress soon.

"The aid included in this plan is positive and realistic because it is not a gift, and it opens the U.S. market to our products. Furthermore, it offers U.S. investors incentives to invest in the area in the production of assets and services, for which they will get a 10-percent income tax deduction," the businessman explained.

He also described as positive the U.S. Government's decision to help renegotiate our foreign debt with the creditor banks as well as with the Paris Club. Guardia said it is expected that the renegotiation will include the private debt.

He commented that the signing of the agreement with the IMF and Costa Rica's documentation of compliance with the agreement will facilitate things, including the rescheduling of our debt. He noted that currently there are hopeful signs the debts may be rescheduled under terms totally favorable to the nation. Finally, he gave assurances that the visit exceeded all expectations.

Lacle Castro, chief of the Unity Party parliamentary bloc, said Reagan's presence in our country is another phase of an effort to persuade the U.S. Government. This effort began in June with President Monge's first visit to Washington.

Lacle Castro warned that such a persuasion effort is intended to convince the U.S. Administration that it is better to help this country overcome its economic crisis than to deal with what the economic collapse of the area's most republican and democratic government could mean in the short or medium term to democracy in Central America and the continent.

Lacle warned, however, that it is not appropriate to raise hopes too high in view of this visit. Since he has the impression that Reagan's government has concentrated all its aid for this area within the framework of the Caribbean Basin Initiative, Lacle believes that it will not be easy to get massive aid outside that context. That is so, he added, because Reagan is facing his own serious domestic problems: The U.S. economy is undergoing a serious crisis, not to mention Reagan's having lost political power in Congress as a result of last November's elections.

Lacle noted, however, that there are already encouraging signs. Next Wednesday, for example, our country will receive the \$70 million allocated to us under the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

The Unity chief added that Reagan's presence shows his good will toward Costa Rica. Furthermore, he considered most important the fact that important U.S. representatives are paying special attention to the problems of Central America and the Caribbean. He noted it is significant that a Republican government is paying attention to these nations, which was not so in the past.

"I believe," he said, "that if we sign the IMF agreement, it may mean aid exceeding that coming from the Caribbean plan. Further, I believe that if we realize that we must not expect everything from abroad, but that we must also make some sacrifices at home, such as controlling public expenses and halting excessive bureaucratic growth, we may look forward to better days early in 1983."

Meanwhile, Dr Monge Zamora considered President Reagan's visit appropriate and pleasant. He commented that the U.S. chief of state was able to feel the warmth of the Costa Rican people.

He added that we need U.S. cooperation to solve our problems and that he felt the search for solutions was headed in the right direction, particularly the rescheduling of our foreign debt. Monge Zamora concluded by saying that the rapprochement between the two governments and countries will be convenient for both.

EL SALVADOR

COFFEE PLANT ATTACKED: 10 SOLDIERS KILLED

PA111541 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1300 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] Here is a last-minute (Rual Beltran) report on the events in Santa Lucia Canton, Zacatecoluca. Go ahead, (Beltran).

[Begin (Beltran) relay] Good morning, listeners. This report adds to an earlier (Roberto Reyes) report on the incidents of Zacatecoluca.

According to information obtained by this station, all of La Paz Department has been without electric power since 1800 yesterday when insurgents blew up several high-tension towers on the highway between (Coluca) and Zacatecoluca, La Paz Department.

Taking advantage of the darkness, at about 0130 early this morning guerrillas entered the Santa Lucia coffee processing plant that belonged to the (Meardy) company and which has been intervened by the Salvadoran Agrarian Transformation Institute [ITA] since 1981. Santa Lucia processes coffee from northern La Paz Department and is protected by some 30 soldiers from the armed forces telecommunications training center in Zacatecoluca. The guerrillas began their attack at 0130; the fighting lasted 2 hours. According to an initial report from the authorities who urgently sent reinforcements this morning to patrol the area and reestablish order, the guerrillas killed 10 soldiers. Furthermore, an officer and 15 soldiers were wounded, at least five of whom are in serious condition.

The rebels attacked with rifles and heavy artillery, according to military sources in Zacatecoluca. The wounded include Lt (Carlos Ernesto Parada), (Nefali Mena Guzman), (Agustin Melendez Martinez), (Magdaleno de Jesus Lobato Merino), (Jose Mario Paulino Santos), (Paulo Antonio Nolasco), (Mejibar Perez), (Santos Antonio Castillo), (Sabino Gonzalez), (Carlos Jaime Manjibar) and (Gonzalo Nolasco Perez). Special units have been sent to the area and order has been reestablished. The search for those who attacked the Santa Lucia coffee plant is underway 4 km north of Zacatecoluca.

It was reported that in Santa Ana the (Santa Cruz) pharmacy and (Almacen Mackenbee) were seriously damaged by explosions last night.

Drivers are hereby advised that the traffic flow on the Coastal Highway has been completely restored by armed forces units guarding the area. Traffic was seriously obstructed Friday morning when guerrillas attacked area army patrols who were accompanied by journalists, including two from Venezuela who have been in the country for several months gathering information and serving as communications advisers. Three Atonal Battalion soldiers who were on leave were killed by the attackers on the Coastal Highway. [end relay]

FORMER MAYOR ARRESTED, CHARGED WITH SUBVERSION

PAL10119 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0038 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Dec (LATIN-REUTER) -- A former mayor was arrested today and bound over to a military tribunal to be tried for subversion, Salvadoran military authorities have reported. She was identified as Eva Artemia Perez Franco, former mayor of a small city located 24 km northeast of San Salvador. At the time of her arrest, the former mayor was found with arms, ammunition and leftwing guerrilla propaganda.

An army spokesman announced at the same time that 70 of the 200 persons kidnapped Sunday by insurgents during a soccer game in the eastern city of San Sebastian have been released or have managed to escape. The fate of the other kidnapped persons is not known.

COUNSEL APPOINTED TO DEFEND ALLEGED NUN KILLERS

PAL02026 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 9 Dec 82 pp 2, 11

[Text] Zacatecoluca, La Paz, El Salvador -- The court appointed three counselors yesterday to defend the five individuals charged with killing four American nuns. After being sworn in, the lawyer who will defend three of the accused appealed the decision to take his three defendants to a plenary court [auto de elevacion de la plenaria], it was learned at the First Criminal Court.

Cesar Augusto Canas was reportedly appointed to defend former National Guardsmen Francisco Orlando Contreras Recinos, Jose Roberto Moreno Canjura and Daniel Canales Ramirez. After being sworn in, Canas appealed the decision to take his three defendants to plenary court. It has been learned that if his appeal is accepted, the trial will be transferred to the chamber of the Third Central Section [Tercera Seccion del Centrao], which will make a final decision on whether the appeal is applicable, or if some other disposition is called for.

The other court-appointed counselors are Dr Tomas Guillermo Lopez, who will represent former subsergeant Luis Antonio Contreras Aleman, and Salvador Antonio Ibarra, who will defend Carlos Joaquin Contreras Palacios. The First Criminal Court judge in this city appointed these counselors in accordance with the law and at the request of the accused, who cited lack of economic resources.

The five former guardsmen are being tried for the aggravated murder of Nuns Mary Elizabeth Clarke, Ita Catherine Ford, Jean Donovan and Dorothy Kazel, committed on 3 December 1980 in the rural area of Santiago Nonualco, La Paz Department.

PRIEST REPORTEDLY LED SANTA CLARA TAKEOVER

PA110428 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 9 Dec 82 p 1

[Excerpts] Spokesmen of the 5th Infantry Brigade, headquartered in San Vicente, today reported that Father David Rodriguez, who is well known in the zone of San Esteban Catarina and San Sebastian, along with Professor Fabio Jaimes and a foreigner described as tall, white, muscular and bearded led the attack and temporary occupation of Santa Clara yesterday.

It was reported that the priest was identified by many people in Santa Clara, who said he was the guerrillas' leader because they repeatedly heard him issuing orders to the combatants. His second in command was the foreigner. According to the military officials, he is a mercenary. The people of Santa Clara reported that the foreigner was in charge of transmitting the priest's orders.

The witnesses who saw Father Rodriguez and heard him issuing orders also told the 5th Infantry Brigade force that the foreigner was seriously wounded during the house-to-house combat that took place when the army recovered the town.

It was said today that only two soldiers were evacuated to the military hospital. The rest were released from Santa Gertrudis Hospital because they were not seriously wounded. It was reported that a total of 14 soldiers were wounded.

Finally, leaders of the 5th Infantry Brigade said that only members of their brigade participated in the recovery of Santa Clara. They were effectively supported by the Salvadoran Air Force.

FMLN AMBUSHES TROOP TRANSPORT IN USULUTAN

PA111710 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] We have a report from Usulután Department indicating that FMLN forces have ambushed elite forces of the dictatorship and have seized U.S.-made M-16 rifles as well as other arms from them. FMLN forces also captured a soldier of the regime's elite forces and inflicted several casualties on Garcia's forces.

This report indicates that our revolutionary army continues operating throughout the national territory and securing new victories to be added to the big victories secured during the national military campaign. We have 270 prisoners of war; we have seized 571 weapons from the army, 31 support weapons, including heavy artillery; we have inflicted 1,040 casualties on the regime's forces. This is the clearest testimony to the capacity developed by our people on the basis of sacrifice and blood to secure liberty.

Our communications companeros now have information about the actions in Usulután Department, where the FMLN ambushed elite troops of the dictatorship.

Today, 10 December, at 0945, the FMLN staged an ambush at the Jiquilisco turnoff on the Coastal Highway. A truck transporting troops of the Atonal Battalion was ambushed; a mine was detonated. As a result of this action, the FMLN recovered 9 M-16 rifles and a machinegun. A soldier was captured. The enemy suffered approximately 12 dead and an undetermined number of wounded. This is advance news sent by companeros of the south-eastern front, in the San Agustín-Tres Calles area. We will soon have a detailed report.

FMLN DENIES KIDNAPPING SAN SEBASTIAN RESIDENTS

PA121943 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Communique issued by the FMLN, dated December 1982 -- read by announcer]

[Text] On Sunday, 5 December, in San Sebastian, San Vicente Department, FMLN units staged an operation involving the seizure of neighborhoods in western San Sebastian. This operation was carried out after they had seized several positions and trenches being held by the enemy, which had to flee to its garrisons.

During the operation, a rally was held at which one of the operation's leaders gave a broad explanation of the development of our struggle and issued a call to the youths and the people in general to join the ranks of the FMLN. As a result, a large number of youths expressed their desire to do so. This number increased during the fighting. On our part, we explained to those who joined the FMLN that their decision was strictly voluntary and we described the difficult circumstances of the people's struggle. We repeatedly told them that they could return to their homes, and some of them did so.

Actions such as the one on Sunday, 5 December, clearly reveal our people's broad support for their liberation struggle. However, the Salvadoran press and the recently created Human Rights Commission of Alvaro Magana's government have begun a vociferous campaign to distort this action and to depict it as a kidnapping, in an effort to conceal the real (and only) hands responsible for the most brutal attacks against human rights in our country. On principle, the FMLN does not recruit combatants by force. The growth of its forces is based on the masses' support for the revolutionary cause. On the other hand, the Salvadoran Army has traditionally practiced forced recruitment, which has been intensified at this stage in the development of the war as a way of overcoming the military blows it has received.

The FMLN, as vanguard of the Salvadoran people, uses its military forces to confront those who are responsible for the fascist barbarity and who have institutionalized violence in our country.

Therefore, we reject the groundless accusations of the government's Human Rights Commission, particularly the accusations against the FMLN by Colonel Lopez Nuila, chief of the National Police.

Lastly, we propose that the International Red Cross committee visit the zone under our control so that it can:

1. Confirm the voluntary nature of the San Sebastian youths' patriotic decision to join the FMLN;
2. Guarantee the security of their relatives, who face reprisals from the enemy in that town;
3. Give protection to those who, unable to adapt themselves to the difficult conditions in which our forces act and, concerned about their relatives, decide to return to their homes.

United to fight until the final victory. Revolution or death, we will win.

GUATEMALA

MINISTERS TO PRESENT RESIGNATIONS 15 DECEMBER

PA102251 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] It was officially announced today that all the ministers and deputy ministers will present their resignations to President Rios Montt on 15 December. Government spokesman Gonzalo Asturias Montenegro explained that the purpose of this action is to enable the president to dismiss or confirm his current officials.

SPOKESMAN REPLIES TO UK CONCERN OVER WEAPONS

PA102318 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1623 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Dec (ACAN-EFE) — The Guatemalan Government today played down the importance of the concern expressed by British officials to the effect that Belize's independence is threatened if the Guatemalan Army receives new weapons. Official government spokesman Gonzalo Asturias told the press that "London should be concerned about fulfilling the agreements it signs, which it has never done, instead of expressing its feelings about the possibility that the United States will sell us weapons."

The British protest came after U.S. President Ronald Reagan expressed his desire to renew military aid to Guatemala, which was suspended in 1977.

"Guatemala is trying to solve the problem of Belize through peaceful means and the appropriate negotiations," Asturias added.

He said that Guatemala will use the weapons it receives to arm the civil self-defense patrols and does not plan to use them for any other purpose. The government spokesman also said that Great Britain should do everything possible to increase its interest in a frank and broad dialogue on the situation of Belize.

HONDURASPAZ BARNICA PROTESTS 9 DEC INCIDENT TO NICARAGUA

PA101339 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Press communique issued by the Public Relations Office of the Office of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Tegucigalpa, 9 December -- read by announcer]

[Text] The secretary of state for foreign affairs hereby reports that on 9 December he addressed Dr Nora Astorga, acting foreign minister of Nicaragua, in the following terms:

Madame Minister,

I am addressing Your Excellency to inform you that at 0800 today, Sandinist army elements fired on the Honduran town of El Coyol, near the Guasaule customs post. As a result of this, two young children who were on the banks of the Guasaule River were wounded.

The Government of Honduras, through me, is hereby presenting a most energetic protest of this new act of aggression by the Nicaraguan Government, which represents a serious threat to peace and security in Central America.

I reiterate to Your Excellency my government's concern over the hostile actions of the Sandinist forces, whose cruelty spares not even children. I would again like to point out the serious consequences and responsibilities that such conduct -- which is completely contrary to the most elemental standards of human behavior and peaceful coexistence your government claims to promote -- could bring to the Nicaraguan Government.

I ask Your Excellency to accept my highest consideration.

[Signed] Edgardo Paz Barnica

Secretary of state for foreign affairs

ARMED FORCES REPORTEDLY REINFORCING BORDER

PA101534 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Report by Alfonso Anariba Calix in San Pedro Sula]

[Text] This is a report from northern Honduras:

It has been reported that the Honduran Armed Forces have increased their surveillance along the border with Nicaragua as a result of the Sandinist army's latest armed actions against national sovereignty.

Choluteca residents have witnessed the mobilization of troops to the border area. Many military vehicles are seen daily on the Pan-American Highway en route to areas of the nation that don't have adequate protection.

At the beginning of this week, Foreign Affairs Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica charged that the Sandinist incursions into Honduras have been increasing, thus endangering the security and peace of the Hondurans who live along the border.

The high command is trying to protect the area at the same time that diplomatic efforts are being made to solve the differences that prevent a complete normalization of bilateral relations.

The campaign against the Honduran Government has continued. The attacks are aimed at the Honduran Armed Forces and at their commander, Gen Gustavo Albarex Martinez, but the authenticity of the films [as heard] is questionable because they could have been made in Nicaragua where, as everybody knows, there are strong groups of armed insurgents who are trying to overthrow the ruling Sandinist government junta.

Therefore, the Sandinist government is fooling its own people by showing them pictures filmed in Nicaragua and claiming that they were made in Honduras. The Sandinist government is trying to promote anti-Honduran sentiments among the population in an effort to prepare the way for fulfilling its ulterior motives.

We repeat, Honduras has sent troops to protect its sovereignty along the border with Nicaragua.

OFFICIAL CITED ON JANUARY CABINET CHANGES

PA121404 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] Cabinet changes have been announced. It seems that Rodriguez Soto will become director of social security and Gustavo Alfaro will replace Dante Ramirez as the president's economic adviser, while Ramirez must do everything possible to obtain the presidency of the Central American Economic Integration Bank.

The government is reportedly planning changes and dismissals in the various government departments and decentralized institutions, according to the officials who are constantly streaming in and out of the Presidential House.

At the last cabinet meeting, the president advised some secretaries to start packing their bags. It was also decided which administration officials would not be replaced, according to one, who refused to be quoted. According to this source, Public Health Minister Gonzalo Rodriguez Soto will replace Anibal Villatoro in the Social Security Institute.

Economy Secretary Gustavo Alfaro will replace Dante Ramirez as the president's economic adviser. Ramirez, meanwhile, will have to risk everything to obtain the presidency of the Central American Economic Integration Bank, it was said. Labor Secretary Dario Montes will leave the administration, and Ubodoro Arriega Iraheta, director of the National Agrarian Institute, will become natural resources secretary. The manager of the Honduran corporation of forest development is leaving without fanfare. The source added that the authorities' assessments to date indicate that among the posts that will probably remain untouched are those of the presidency, government and foreign affairs secretaries, while the culture and tourism and defense and public security secretaries and the managers of the National Agricultural Development Bank and the Honduran telecommunications enterprise are being scrutinized.

There are even instructions for internal reorganization of the secretaries. The changes in the cabinet, which will be announced during the first half of January, will apparently involve political integration as well.

PAZ BARNICA ASKS RETURN OF PEASANT'S BODY

PA101549 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Honduran Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica has sent a protest note to Guillermo Suarez Rivas, Nicaraguan ambassador to Tegucigalpa, as follows:

Mr Ambassador,

I have the honor of addressing Your Excellency to inform you that at 1100 yesterday, elements of the Sandinist Peoples Army entered Honduran territory in the (El Revolcadero) area, (Dipilto) Municipality, El Paraiso Department. They took away a peasant named (Jose Ines Gonzalez), whom they murdered as soon as they crossed the border into Nicaragua. They left the body where (Gonzalez') neighbors could see it. The victim's relatives and friends have tried to recover the body but without success because the Sandinist forces fire on them; an innocent woman has already been wounded.

The efforts that the Honduran military chief of the area has made have also been fruitless because his Nicaraguan counterpart refuses to turn over the body or to permit its repatriation.

In presenting this most energetic protest of this violation of Honduran sovereignty and of the most elemental human right, a violation perpetrated and continued with wanton cruelty, I formally ask the Nicaraguan authorities to at least permit the relatives of the deceased to recover the body so that it may receive a Christian burial.

I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest and most distinguished consideration.

[Signed] Edgardo Paz Barnica.

RADIO VENCEREMOS COMMENTS ON SHARON VISIT

PA101450 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon visited Honduras. Was he on vacation? We doubt it. Israel is currently on a war footing, its invading troops are currently occupying Lebanese territory and the Israeli minister cannot afford to merely visit one of what they describe as the Banana Republics. He would not visit Honduras except for an important matter: none other than executing the strategy designed by U.S. imperialism to intervene militarily in Central America.

The Israeli defense minister, an accomplice in the slaughter of refugees in Beirut, visited Honduras immediately after Reagan's visit -- immediately after Reagan, who went to Honduras to mock the Honduran people and to approve the use of the Honduran Army in his war planes. Reagan came to offend the dignity of Morazan's homeland and announced from Honduras that he would give more weapons to the criminal Guatemalan dictator, leaving in his wake the machinegunning of several Hondurans who dared drive through the streets of San Pedro Sula during his visit.

Now Israel's man of war has come to supervise the interventionist plans. Sharon has come to offer the weapons, the advisers and the planes that imperialism will deliver through Israel to General Alvarez. These men and materiel will be used in Alvarez' coordinated operations against Chalatenango or Morazan, during which the Salvadoran and Honduran Armies rub elbows.

For a long time now, we have been warning the Honduran people against the danger of accepting a big headquarters for intervention, whence the Somozists and Yankees, Chilean, Argentine and now Israeli advisers can direct the aggression against Nicaragua and against the struggle that is currently being waged by the peoples of Guatemala and El Salvador.

THE NEW YORK TIMES disclosure that there are currently 150 CIA spies in Honduras, who along with the Somozists are conspiring against the Nicaraguan people, and the many charges regarding Honduran Army participation in actions against the FMLN in Salvadoran territory, already provide so much evidence, so much data, that even the blind can see that Honduras is at the edge of an abyss but that there is still time to save it.

Reagan came to sign the mortgage on Honduras in exchange for more weapons, destruction and death. Now the genocidal Israeli minister is visiting in Honduras, but not exactly to buy bananas. Several weeks ago, when the Honduran troops clashed with the FMLN forces in Chalatenango, when six Honduran Air Force helicopters machinegunned our positions in El Salvador, we said that Reagan was turning Honduras into Central America's Israel. The Israeli defense minister's visit must be a cause for reflection for every Honduran who loves his homeland and who, like Morazan, believes that united we can be great, free and independent.

NICARAGUA

30 DEAD REPORTED IN CLASHES ON HONDURAN BORDER

PA111646 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] A morning report from the northern border reveals that new clashes have occurred in the last few hours, while the fighting spirit and morale of the border guards and the reserves of the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] have been felt by the enemy, which has sustained heavy casualties. (Oscar Alvarez Montiel) reports from Jalapa, Nueva Segovia Department:

[Begin recording] From Jalapa, this is a report for Radio Sandino. Two violent clashes occurred yesterday between the EPS reserves and border guards and approximately 80 Somozist counterrevolutionaries. The clashes occurred near Jalapa, on Santa Fe and Santa Rosa Hills, where the attackers used 75-mm mortars as well as Fal and Galil rifles. The strong response of the border guards forced the counterrevolutionaries to abandon the two hills northeast of Jalapa. They left at least 20 dead behind as they fled, according to an unofficial report.

Another clash occurred later on (La Brisa) Hill in the same area as El Aguila Hill, from whence the counterrevolutionaries based in Honduras launch attacks. In this clash the counterrevolutionaries used 70-mm mortars and rifle fire. The border guards responded but there were no reports of casualties on either side.

At approximately 1800 a third clash occurred on Buenavista Hill northeast of Jalapa, 1,500 meters from the Honduran border. There were no reports of casualties on either side. At 2100 the counterrevolutionaries fired three flares near Buena Vista to observe the movement of the border guards.

Radio Sandino visited this sector of the border where the fighting morale of the border guards and the EPS reserves is very high.

Spokesmen for the 1st Military Region of this northern sector of the country reported a violent clash in Quilali that lasted an hour. Ten counterrevolutionaries were killed by the EPS and border guards. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPLIES TO HONDURAN PROTESTS

PA110013 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2336 GMT 10 Dec 82

Foreign Ministry press communique issued in Managua on 10 December -- read by announcer]

[Text] Managua, 10 December -- The Foreign Ministry energetically denied today the participation of members of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces in the events that supposedly occurred on 9 December in the border region with Honduras.

The message of the Foreign Ministry in reply to the two protest notes from the Honduran foreign secretary indicated yesterday that an investigation of the charges was immediately carried out, resulting in the military authorities' denial of such incidents. It also emphasized that the Sandinist armed forces that operate on the common border maintain respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Honduran Government. Another part of the diplomatic note reiterated that the counter-revolutionary bands in Honduran territory are the ones that almost daily carry out with impunity crimes against the Nicaraguan civilian population.

The Honduran protest note described the attitude of our heroic soldiers as cruel, when in fact there is no proof of this, and in fact more than 100 Nicaraguan citizens have been killed, tortured and kidnapped by the counterrevolutionaries with the consent of broad sectors of the Honduran Government and Army.

[Signed] Press and Dissemination Directorate of the Foreign Ministry

REACTION TO 9 DEC HELICOPTER CRASH REPORTED

Defense Ministry Communique

PA101305 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Communique released by the Defense Ministry's Public and Foreign Relations Department in Managua on 9 December -- read by Capt Roberto Sanchez, chief of army public relations]

[Text] The Defense Ministry announces:

1. At 1430 today, 9 December, transport helicopter No 265 of the Sandinist Air Force [FAS] was on a mission evacuating the civilian population of (San Andres de Bocay), Hamacas, (Cacalpanani) and (Gualaquista), in northern Jinotega Department. As the helicopter flew over Ayapal, a zone where the Somozist bands from Honduras carry out counterrevolutionary activities, the aircraft crashed and fell down a cliff, where it caught fire. As a result, 75 children died and 7 other adults and children were injured.

2. At 1500 on the same day, in the above area, FAS helicopter No 264, which was also going to participate in the rescue mission, was fired upon by Somozist elements and was slightly damaged.

3. The helicopter that crashed was carrying out the mission of evacuating children and sick people from the border towns affected by the Somozist bands. This evacuation has been carried out in dozens of FAS flights throughout November. Those flights have been subject to constant criminal harassment, which until today had failed to prevent the evacuation of 1,800 people, including women, children and the elderly.

4. Through its various forces, the Sandinist Peoples Army will continue to support the evacuation of the civilian population from the border towns affected by the Somozist bands' cowardly and terrorist activities. These bands carry out their activities from Honduras.

FSLN, Junta Mourning Decree

PA102334 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2254 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Statement issued by the FSLN National Directorate and the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in Managua on 10 December -- read by unidentified official at Government House -- live]

[Text] The FSLN National Directorate and the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, whereas:

1. On Thursday, 9 December, at 1430, in the area of Ayapal, 75 children died, victims of the aggression that the current U.S. administration is promoting against the Sandinist people's revolution;
2. The governments in Central America that let themselves be used as bases and tools for the aggressions of the current U.S. administration are accomplices in these actions;
3. The heroic people of Sandino continue to be victims of the barbarous acts of the Somozist guardsmen who launch their attacks from Honduran territory;

They agree to:

1. Decree national mourning on 10, 11 and 12 December. On those days the white and blue flag and the red and black flag will fly at half mast.
2. State their solidarity with the mass organizations, unions, religious groups, women's groups, professional groups, children's groups, intellectuals' groups and with all the Nicaraguan people who today express their combative and militant repudiation.
3. Issue a call to the international community to stop the escalation of aggression against the Nicaraguan people by the current U.S. administration, which has now introduced the genocidal Government of Israel as a factor in support of these plans.
4. Support the heroic people of Sandino, who are intensifying their participation in the people's militias, the reserve battalions and revolutionary vigilance, thus expressing their desire to defend the revolutionary achievements from foreign aggression.
5. Express our sorrow to the parents of the 75 martyr children who today add their blood to the thousands murdered in our country by imperialism and the Somozist dictatorship.

Issued in Managua on 10 December 1982, year of unity in the face of aggression.

[Signed] FSLN National Directorate, Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

Humberto Ortega Speech

PA121435 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2333 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Humberto Ortega, defense minister and chief of the Sandinist Peoples Army, at a rally to honor helicopter crash victims, at the Plaza of the Revolution in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] Brothers of our National Directorate and of our Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, Sandinist Brothers:

Today, the best of our people have gathered in this plaza this afternoon to bear witness to the rejection of U.S. imperialism and other reactionary forces that support and back the Somoquist gangs, which in turn continue a constant criminal and cowardly aggression, especially along Nicaragua's northern border with Honduras.

Together with our National Directorate, the best of our people, represented in this rebellious and revolutionary crowd this afternoon, want to express our deep sorrow and our deepest solidarity with the relatives of the martyred children of Ayapal, who have given their young lives because of the criminal situation resulting from the unjust war that Yankee imperialism is waging against our young revolution.

This event, this militant mourning, serves to reaffirm before our brother, Carlos Fonseca, that we are unyieldingly determined to defend our children and, together with our children, to defend the Sandinist people's revolution, which means to yield not a single inch to imperialism and to be ready to die, as did our children, before going down on our knees before the exploiters and imperialism. [applause]

We want to refer briefly to the process of evacuation that, on the instructions of our revolutionary government, the Sandinist Peoples Army [EPS] and the Interior Ministry have been carrying out in the area where the children of Ayapal died. This evacuation originated in the evacuation process that our revolution had to undertake in the region of northern Selaya at the end of 1981 because of the constant attacks by the Somoquist guardsmen from Honduras. This process in northern Selaya culminated with the Miskito settlements of Tasba Pri and others, of which we are all aware. Throughout 1982, in the region of northern Jinotega, where Ayapal is located, there has been an increase and intensification of the armed Somoquist bands' activities against our border population, in violation of our sovereignty and territory and with support from the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Army.

We must point out that these defenseless people were supported only by the army troops that operated in those mountainous regions. Therefore, they had to be, and continue to be, evacuated, given the warlike situation, because a real war is being waged in those mountainous border regions against the Somoquist guardsmen, who are shamelessly supported by the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Army. This means that the evacuation was not an easy task. It was a difficult task involving mountainous areas with bad roads, containing many places that can only be reached by helicopter and aircraft.

Of 7,410 Nicaraguan Miskitos who had to be evacuated from those border areas, 2,310 could not be evacuated by land. These were children under the age of 7, elderly people, the ill or those who were disabled in the Somoquist guardsmen's attacks on those towns.

Those 2,310 people who could not make the evacuation marches to the country's interior had to be removed by air, essentially by helicopter, since we have no landing strips for large airplanes in that region. This total of 2,310 did not include only those who had to be evacuated by helicopter; in the process, other inhabitants began to show up and asked to be evacuated and the number increased by 869 as a result. In order to guarantee the evacuation within the situation that we are experiencing in our country, we sent eight doctors to accompany the people on their march and to ensure that the ill were cared for in the evacuation of our Miskito citizens. We also involved 32 nurses and 50 activists from the FSLN's professional organizations in these tasks. Along with hundreds of EPS combatants and Interior Ministry officials, they began to carry out this humane and necessary task, to be better able to face [passage indistinct].

So far, we've been able to relocate 1,162 Nicaraguan citizens from those areas in state production units in Wiwili and 1,503 in San Jose Bocay, while the remainder of the 7,000 who must be evacuated are already halfway to their final destinations. An example is that this location in Ayapal is a halfway point for the places near the border. Therefore, the people who must be evacuated are those on the border. They are taken to Ayapal, which, though still close to the border, is a little farther away. Those who are unable to walk are flown by helicopter, while the rest walk to their final settlements.

These communities that have been evacuated in northern Jinotega include Rio Coco, (Yascalpanani), (Chinigu), Li, (Tiburoc), Pankawas, San Andres de Bocay, (Aniwas), Walakitan and Raiti; and in the Bocay River area they include Hamaca, Oculi, (Coyawas) and Guinas, where the Sumo people live.

In these areas inhabited by Miskito and Sumo Nicaraguans, the FSLN felt both affection and support for our cause when FSLN veterans, founders and forgers of the Sandinist front like Tomas [Borge] or Victor Tirado [Lopez] were involved in the guerrilla struggle there.

Today, we are helping these Miskitos. Today, we are truly incorporating them into Nicaragua, for they have been practically separated from our nation in the past.

In more than 50 trips, amounting to more than 150 flying hours from 15 November to 9 December, the Sandinist Air Force [FAS] moved more than 3,871 people in this evacuation.

It is within the framework of that undeclared war being experienced by the Nicaraguans that this tragic Ayapal incident occurred.

The results of the helicopter crash are as follows: 75 Miskito children, including a 1-day old infant, were burned and killed when the helicopter exploded and crashed to the ground. Seconds after it crashed, the helicopter caught fire. Dead adults: nine Miskito women who had recently given birth to children and were accompanying the children in that evacuation. Survivors: Three children, two of them burned and one who was unharmed; and five adults, four men, two of whom were injured, and a woman who was unharmed.

There are different kinds of FAS helicopters. The one we were using in the war zone on this occasion was a transport helicopter, which was practically destroyed. It is useless. It had the ability to transport 6,500 lbs and was carrying 5,500 lbs at the time.

All of these martyrs are the product of the unfair and criminal war that is being imposed by Yankee imperialism simply because we are revolutionaries, because we defend a popular struggle and because we've always said, both inside and outside of Nicaragua, that we will always be anti-imperialist and that we will never stop the revolutionary process being waged for the people, the workers and the peasants. [applause]

We wanted to take some time to give you a detailed explanation of the evacuation. It is not difficult to explain the beasts, criminals and degenerates, the Herods among the Somozist reactionaries and the Yankee Marines who taught the Somozist guardsmen to kill. This is not difficult to explain, because our people who suffered the martyrdom produced by Somozism know very well how far they will go and the kind of terrible criminal acts of which these reactionaries and Somozists are capable.

We could say that the martyred children of Ayapal are victims of the Yankee-Somozist reactionary attack on our revolutionary working people. These martyred children of Ayapal are victims of this unjust war, which the Yankees and Somozists intend to impose for a long time in their efforts to destroy the national reconstruction process and to prepare better conditions for a military attack, by which to conquer and dominate our workers, as in the past. For this reason, we note with responsibility, conviction and awareness that the martyred children of Ayapal are victims of the Yankee reactionary attack and of the Somozist guardsmen who, supported by sectors of the Honduran Army, are waging constant war on our territory and people.

Who has spoken up for the Ayapal martyrs? Logically, Nicaragua's patriotic and revolutionary people have, but not the reactionary and treacherous individuals who, because of certain circumstances still exist in our revolutionary society. In these days of attacks and of such incidents, these gentlemen -- such as Adan Fletes, for example, of the Social Christian Party, though it is Christian in name only -- have been talking of shameless support for the Somozist guardsmen's armed actions against our people through an instrument that is apt for this kind of offense: LA PRENSA, the reactionary paper that we all know.

Our society and revolution are pluralist, as we have said. However, gentlemen like Fletes don't realize that they are playing with fire. They are playing with the fire that comes from the hearts of the masses. They are playing with the red and black fire that comes from the heart of the revolution, and if these gentlemen don't change, this fire will burn them until they are purged from our society. [applause]

These include shameless gentlemen like certain spokesmen of the Democratic Conservative Party, whom we heard on the radio trying to minimize this cruel action that was provoked by the imperialist attack on our people. These also include the gentlemen of LA PRENSA, who by their attitude are only trying to impede the liberating, democratic, popular and revolutionary process that we are carrying out.

The attitude of some members of what is known as the church hierarchy has also been notorious. We know very well to whom we are referring. Without truly representing the feelings of the church of the poor, of the priests and bishops of the poor, they have not accompanied our people in their grief and in the solidarity that the blood that we have spilled demands from our leaders and our men, as real patriots and revolutionaries. We have to say these things clearly, especially at a time when it is the most long-suffering and humble sectors of our society, the poor of Nicaragua, who continue to shed their blood, to be disabled, to be left without arms or eyes or invalid.

With courage, sacrifice, humility, simplicity and without bourgeois aspirations, they continue to face the enemy in defending their homeland and their popular and revolutionary cause.

How can we not feel indignant when our people weep over their dead? How can we not feel indignant when we see insolent and shameless attitudes like those of these reactionary sectors, which still remain in our free Nicaragua?

Lastly, we want to refer briefly to the status of the military aggression from which we are suffering. In the last few days in the northern region of Nueva Segovia, in points known as Jalapa, (Lomas Oscuras) and (El Ranchon), on the border in northern Chinandega, a very tense situation with the Honduran Army has developed. This results from the blatant activity of hundreds of Somozist guardsmen, who are well organized and equipped with good armament, including heavy weapons, which they are using in that border region to carry out the plans that our government, the Interior and Defense Ministries, have denounced. Their intention is to occupy a piece of territory, so that it can be declared a supposedly free territory with a provisional government, and in this way to seek support from the reactionary governments, after which they can carry out a larger military attack on our territory.

Hundreds of humble peasants and EPS workers are fighting there. The latest report dealt with actions that took place yesterday and today in that area of Jalapa. We want to take advantage of this opportunity to once again denounce this to the world and to strengthen our people's preparedness for combat. A gang of no less than 400 Somozist counterrevolutionaries, operating in the border region west of Jalapa from Honduran territory, staged a military action yesterday and today with the support of 106.7-mm mortars [as heard]. It must be noted here that these mortars are a basic weapon for the Honduran Army. They have deployed these mortars on the border in Honduran territory and they open fire indiscriminately, endangering the lives of the Nicaraguan workers who work there or the soldiers who are there. The command post for the military detachment that we are talking about is located on a hill called El Aguila, in Honduran territory, right on the borderline. Our military authorities, who have a communications channel with the Honduran officer in charge of that sector, have made many calls to try to reach agreement with these Honduran militarymen on this situation, but the Honduran military authorities have repeatedly rejected our authorities' calls in the last few days, without making any reply. This is the situation in this border region of Jalapa in northern Nueva Segovia.

There are other areas where there has been an increase in the Somozist counterrevolutionary military activity in Honduras and we can foresee that in the next few days other situations like that we are currently facing in that sector of Jalapa could arise. The fighting in that area was intense today. Our forces were able to drive the counterrevolutionaries back to El Aguila in Honduras, given that they had entered our nation's territory yesterday and today. Our forces confronted them and resisted the attack and once again expelled them to their border area. Obviously, we cannot cross the border, because we know that this could provide an excuse for an escalation of the conflict. That is why I was saying that there are other areas, like northern Zelaya, where we think that this kind of activity might increase.

There have also been some attacks in the southern region, on the border with Costa Rica. In this case, the traitor Pastora and the Chamorros were unsuccessful. They recently tried to seize the town of Cardenas, but our brave reserve soldiers repelled the attack, inflicting four dead and seven wounded on these traitorous Somozist bandits.
[applause]

This is the situation we are currently experiencing and in which our children died. The deaths of the martyrs of Ayapal have been deeply felt in the humble hearts of our working people.

Long live the martyred children of Ayapal! [crowd shouts "Viva"] Long live our Sandinist peoples revolution! [crowd shouts "Viva"] Long live our National Reconstruction Government Junta! [crowd shouts "Viva"] Long live our FSLN National Directorate [crowd shouts "Viva"] Free fatherland [crowd shouts "Or death!"]

EPS Intelligence Chief Remarks

PA121305 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] Brigade Commander Julio Ramos, chief of the Sandinist Peoples Army, EPS, Intelligence Directorate, has said that the possibility that the helicopter that crashed in Nicaragua's northern region 2 days ago was carrying too much weight has been totally rejected. A total of 88 [as heard] people who were being evacuated, including 75 children, died in the accident.

At a news conference in Managua with Nicaraguan and foreign newsmen, Ramos said that the aircraft could have carried an additional 1,500 lbs, while noting that the initial investigation had established that the helicopter fell on the side containing the passengers' door, making it impossible for them to get out. Ramos added that the helicopter caught fire after plummeting down on to a cliff near Ayapal, in the northern part of Jinotega.

The EPS intelligence chief said the investigations to determine the causes of the disaster are continuing, but stressed that counterrevolutionary elements fired on another aircraft that was heading to the scene of the accident, approximately 8 km from Ayapal.

Later, Ramos added that some 4,000 families that lived in 11 communities in the region on the Honduran border, where counterrevolutionary bands have been operating in the last few months, have already been relocated. He also protested the existing complicity between Honduran military sectors and the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary bands.

JUNTA SAYS COSTA RICA HELPING ANTI-SANDINISTS

PA110141 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0026 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Communique issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction on 10 December in Managua -- read by an unidentified official at the Foreign Ministry -- live]

[Text] In a 7 December press communique issued by the Costa Rican presidential house, supposedly to report on a recently concluded visit of a delegation of the Socialist International, President Luis Alberto Monge, obviously disappointed by the results of that visit, made remarks that confirm the extreme degree of submission to the U.S. Administration that his government has reached.

The communique stated that President Monge told the Socialist International delegation that he shared its position of opposing any foreign aggression against Nicaragua. Despite this statement, the communique then proceeds to express a most serious and ill-intentioned accusation against Nicaragua by saying that President Monge had expressed that in Costa Rica, we feel we are the object of a continuous aggression from Sandinism.

In the face of the seriousness of such an accusation, the Nicaraguan Government asks: What is the object of this statement but to give the Reagan administration arguments, however false, that will permit it to justify its criminal intentions against the sovereignty and self-determination of the Nicaraguan people?

The Nicaraguan Government understands Costa Rica's deep economic crisis and the many problems affecting that fraternal country. It also understands that those who hold the illusion that the U.S. Government is their only savior, can succumb to the temptation to ingratiate themselves with that government. But the Nicaraguan Government also understands that, aside from all moral considerations, the irresponsible chorusing of the slanderous accusations of the Reagan administration, far from being useful to the interests of the Costa Rican brothers and peace in Central America, can only worsen the already extremely tense regional situation.

In the face of those unwarranted statements, Nicaragua has more than enough proof to at least show that Costa Rican territory is being used for the organization and execution of criminal actions directed at destabilizing our revolutionary government. We stress the following:

1. The existence in Costa Rican territory of the counterrevolutionary radio financed by the CIA called the Voice of Sandino.
2. The arrest in San Jose on 30 October of the counterrevolutionary Eden Pastora, who resides in Costa Rica, with a large amount of weapons, and his immediate release and return of the seized weapons on express orders from President Monge.
3. The arrest on 2 December, along with a considerable load of weapons, of the counterrevolutionary Edmundo Chamorro, who was released by the Costa Rican authorities, and who also obtained the return of the seized weapons.
4. The disclosures of former Argentine agent Hector Frances, who just a few days ago gave an extensive report on the anti-Nicaraguan activities that are carried out in Costa Rica, in which high-ranking officials of the government of President Monge are involved.
5. The attack on the Nicaraguan town of Cardenas, which was correctly predicted by former agent Hector Frances, and which was carried out from Costa Rican territory by Somozist bands, which even used an airplane.

These events, which constitute irrefutable proof of the attitude adopted by President Monge toward Nicaragua, are the ones that must be addressed and clarified.

In these circumstances, the Nicaraguan Government, being the first to want light shed on these and other actions, including the remarks of President Monge, and consistent with its desire for peace and a central American spirit, proposes the forming of a special commission made up of representatives of the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan parliaments, which would be in charge of investigating the charges that the two governments present in order to establish the truth of these charges and to help establish a beneficial dialogue between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

Managua, 10 December 1982, year of unity in the face of aggression

[Signed] General Secretariat of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction

COMMUNIQUE ON SHARON VISIT TO HONDURAS

PA110206 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0056 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Foreign Ministry communique on visit of Israeli Defense Minister Sharon to Honduras, issued in Managua on 10 December -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry wants to make clear the position of the Government of National Reconstruction regarding the visit by Israeli Defense Minister Gen Ari'el Sharon to Honduras from 6 to 8 December.

The visit of this top Zionist representative, responsible for the genocide against the Palestinian people, is another step in the escalating attacks that the U.S. Government has been conducting for some time from Honduran territory.

The Zionist presence in Honduras is the culmination of imperialism's efforts to find a surrogate to implement aggressive plans against the Central American, Caribbean and Latin American peoples. It is a known fact that Zionism has emphasized the expanding of relations with those Central American governments that have systematically violated human rights. It has given them weapons and military assistance to be used against the people of these countries, just as it did with the Somoquist dictatorship, which counted on their support to massacre our people.

It is a matter of great concern that Honduras and Costa Rica should at this time strengthen their ties with the bloodiest and most terroristic government since the days of Hitler's fascism.

General Sharon's visit takes place at time when the United States has discarded the possibility of finding a peaceful solution to the regional crisis and is preparing the conditions to implement more intensive attacks against our revolution.

It is also significant that this visit took place immediately after President Reagan's visit to Honduras.

Consequently, the Nicaraguan Government considers the Zionist presence in Honduras dangerous for the Central American people, and for this reason we consider it our duty to condemn and reject it.

For a long time Nicaragua has been protesting at international forums the attempts by U.S. imperialism to make Honduras the Israel of Central America, and events have confirmed that this is taking place.

Managua, 10 December 1982

[No signature read]

Visit to 'Increase Pressure'

PA101622 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Honduras -- Honduran opposition leaders have stressed that the reason for the recent visit by Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, the butcher of Beirut, was to increase the pressure on the Nicaraguan Government within the framework of a general deterrent plan promoted by the United States. According to this report from Honduras, Pentagon strategists opted for the Israeli alternative in view of the great political and legal barriers that the Washington legislative apparatus places on sending Marines abroad. Sharon was chosen as the spokesman for this new plan that guarantees the necessary support for the Honduran Army; therefore, Honduras would reportedly become a key player in the defense of U.S. interests in the region.

CASTRO FAR DAY SPEECH CRITICIZES U.S. POLICY

FL112220 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2118 GMT 11 Dec 82 .

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at a military ceremony held at Havana's Plaza de la Revolution to mark the 26th anniversary of the "Granma" landing and the founding of the FAR, as well as to present combat flags to Havana territorial militia units -- live]

[Text] Distinguished guests, comrades of the FAR, comrades of the territorial militia troops [MTT], [applause] chanting and shouting] today we commemorate [applause, chanting and shouting] the 26th anniversary of the "Granma" landing and the founding of our glorious FAR. This anniversary was a few days ago, on 2 December, but in order not to affect labor activities it was decided to celebrate on a Saturday afternoon.

As a very special, symbolic and expressive event of this commemoration, today the CLXIII Corps of the MTT and the seven divisions which make up the corps received their combat flags. The militias have a long and beautiful history in our country. They were founded in 1959, the first year of the revolution. Our Rebel Army was still small. The threats and dangers of aggression began to appear during the first months. Already by May, with the implementation of the agrarian reform law, it was said that decisions were made by the U.S. Government to carry out what it is currently called destabilization of the country in order to then carry out aggression.

They wanted to apply the Guatemalan prescription to us, a prescription used almost 30 years ago to overthrow a democratic and progressive government in Central America. From the first months, we clearly saw the need to incorporate the people into the defense of the country. I believe it was Lenin who said that a revolution is as valid as its ability to defend itself. This is how the demand for it came about [applause], the clamor to arm our workers, our peasants, our students, our workers in general -- manufacturing and intellectual workers.

From the first moments, we showed imperialism that we were ready to fight and this was a revolution of the people, because only a revolution of the people can arm the people [applause]. There have been many changes of government throughout history; these changes take place all the time. Not a week goes by without reports of coups and changes of government of one kind or another. There are even some which are called revolutionary, but for some very special reason they arm the people. The classes that carry out exploitation have always historically opposed arming the people. How can an exploiting society arm the people, how can an exploiting society hand over arms to the workers, peasants and students as we normally read that the workers, peasants and students are in constant struggle and strikes? If an exploiting society arms the people, this society will disappear in a matter of weeks or in matter of days or in matter of hours, therefore this fact defines a real revolution; the people were not armed only because of this definition or theory, the people have also been armed because of a need. This is how our first national revolutionary militia came about, a militia which has always been organically integrated to our FAR. There was no need to make any kind of separation because our FAR is a single unit made up of the armed people, by people in uniform as Camilo used to say. [applause]

We must remember that at that time we practically had no military training centers, very few. And during the first few months we found it necessary to improvise. The first militias were organized in the factories. They used to train in the backyards of the factories, on the streets, everywhere. And how timely was that militia training, seeing that enemy intentions were treacherous.

Within the plan to organize counterrevolutionary bands throughout the entire country -- and there was a time when there were bands throughout the entire country, in all the old provinces, including Havana Province -- the landing of military weapons, the airborne delivery of weapons and the introduction of explosives for sabotage, and so forth was incessant. [It was] an active counterrevolutionary campaign just exactly like the one the imperialists are now carrying out against Nicaragua.

In some regions of the country the bands gathered considerable strength, such as in the Escambray. And it is a historical fact that at first the aggressors were not considering Giron [Bag of Pigs]. There were considering Escambray as a landing point for their mercenary expedition. And I remember that a few months before, or let us say a few weeks prior to the Giron invasion, 40,000 militia members from the capital of the republic were mobilized -- workers and students from the capital, 40,000 of them. And they took the Escambray. They surrounded it. They split up and they searched it corner by corner, capturing -- I don't remember exact figures, but yes -- between 500 and 1,000 counterrevolutionaries in a few weeks. [applause] There were a few scattered [counterrevolutionaries] left there, but very few whom, it is clear now, continued to receive support from abroad and to fill their ranks with reactionary individuals.

At that time there was an enormous anticommunist campaign, when the peasants did not even know what communism was and they used to be told that communism was a terrible thing, therefore communism was something they must fight against. The truth is that at that time we had not declared the socialist revolution, nor had we proclaimed Marxism-Leninism as our doctrine. The proclamation of our socialist revolution and of Marxism-Leninism, was the result of a consistent revolutionary process. Because without socialism and without Marxism-Leninism it is absolutely impossible to talk about revolution. [applause]

There have been many who have tried to make the ideals mystical. They tried to find some kind of hybrid or mixture between socialist Marxism-Leninism and the capitalist ideologies. There may be revolutions, there were revolutions at other times during centuries past which may have been nationalist, democratic, progressive revolutions. For example, our own struggle for independence was one. At that time it was not the era of socialism or of Marxism-Leninism. But at the present time no hybrid can really be labeled revolutionary. No mixture can function. How a process is developed is another thing, step by step, in time periods or by stages. But today we cannot speak of revolutionary ideals if they are not inspired within the doctrine of the working class and Marxism-Leninism, or if they fail to follow the objective of socialism in the short, medium or long term.

At that time we had not even proclaimed socialism. But the enemy did understand that this was a real revolution and a revolution of the people and it set about to fight it on all fronts. At that time the exodus began. They attempted to take away our doctors, teachers and technicians. And we opened our doors. We did not want to carry out a revolution against the will of those people. We did not want to impose socialism on them if they preferred capitalism or the Yankee consumer society. Then [let them] go and may all go well for them.

For us it was much better. [applause] Because to tell the truth tens of thousands of houses belonging to the bourgeoisie, to oligarchies, to extremely wealthy people -- who built bigger houses than the U.S. millionaires -- were left for us to use as schools and to house the people. Many of those elegant and well-built apartment houses, where the bourgeoisie that left used to live, today house workers, today house the proletariat. It was good for us because they took with them those of that social group who were incapable of joining a revolutionary process. It was good for us because the good ones, the vast majority, remained in the bosom of the country and the revolution.

During that era, I repeat, the dangers were more real and growing each day. The intensity of sabotage and counterrevolutionary bands increased. That was how the first great service rendered by the militia took place. Those were, as a matter of fact, the militia of the capital; although later, battalions from Oriente and from other provinces took part in the Escambray. The fact was that we almost completely cleaned up the Escambray some few weeks prior to the Giron invasion. The enemy had to change its plans. It no longer had a base for its aggression. Then the enemy launched its attack at Giron.

At the time we were not yet organized into army corps, divisions, regiments. our organization at the time consisted of battalions in the national militias, and relatively small units in the Rebel Army. That was our situation when the Giron attack took place. But days before that we had received from Czechoslovakia and the USSR some hundreds of cannons of all types, 57 [mm], 75 [mm]; all types of mortars, also howitzers of 122 [mm]. In those days we did not yet have the famous multiple rocket launchers. We had already received tanks and various type of infantry arms. We also had received a large number of antiaircraft guns because we did not have an air force. There were a few aircraft, and I believe fewer pilots than planes. We needed the antiaircraft guns.

A few days before that schools were improvised with thousands of militia members. We used to meet in different areas of the capital and asked who wanted to be gunners. Naturally, thousands responded positively, immediately. Everywhere training camps were improvised for training artillery personnel for the militias. The truth of the matter is that on 17 December 1961, following the air raid -- because it was a treacherous action, yes -- they tried to destroy the very few aircraft we had. However, they were met by antiaircraft machineguns operated by militia members in all airfields. [applause] But if the air raid was treacherous, it was also stupid, because it warned us that the invasion was imminent. With the typical method of imperialism and the cynicism typical of imperialism, they declared that those aircraft were not coming from anywhere. They were not coming from Nicaragua, or Guatemala or the United States. They said that those aircraft were coming from Cuba, that it was the air force which had rebelled and, after bombing some units, had sought refuge in Miami and other places. They also told this lie at the United Nations to everybody, very calmly. They are doing the exact same thing with Nicaragua today in relation to Honduras.

Every day there is aggression and every day they deny it. This is for those gullible individuals who still believe that the imperialists are capable of telling the truth at least once, because even the simplest events are complicated by them. They always say things in a biased manner. Their lives, their philosophy is practically the philosophy of the lie, and we have had that experience.

Knowing the imminence of the invasion, all forces were mobilized. When the landing took place, in the country there were mobilized, and on a state of alert, not only the Rebel Army forces, our budding FAR, the navy and air force included, but hundreds of militia battalions throughout the entire country.

It is possible that the imperialists do not yet know what happened. But wherever they might have landed, they would have met the same punishment. And if instead of an expeditionary force they had landed 10 expeditionary forces, they would have been dealt the same blow everywhere, [applause] everywhere the people were waiting for them. I repeat that our army, our expeditionary armed forces, were very small. They could pilot just a few aircraft. They could operate a small number of tanks, which had recently arrived. But the entire infantry and the ground and antiaircraft artillery were formed by militias.

When it was confirmed that the landing was taking place at Giron, after the Matanzas officers -- the officers training at the Matanzas officer's school, one of our first schools -- were sent to Giron, what left the capital was a river of militia battalions of militia members and artillery, both ground and antiaircraft. Of course, there were the tanks and some well-trained units of our FAR. There in Giron, for a second time, the capital's militia members covered themselves in glory. [applause] Dozens of them gave their lives at the side of numerous combatants of our then small FAR. There they fought together as a single army, the national militias and the Rebel Army, under the same command. Later on, there were other very important events that forced us to call continued mobilizations in the face of imperialist threats. Suffice it to mention the October crisis during which, once more, hundreds of thousands of militia members were mobilized throughout the country.

Little by little, the national militias of those days were integrated into our regular FAR troops, and into the FAR reserves. We did not have the military service at that time. Many militia members became cadres, became officers and today many of them are outstanding FAR officers. With time the military service was instituted. That meant the incorporation of the youth into the FAR and the training of youths as members of the FAR. After some years, waves and waves of youths became members of the FAR and progressively became the FAR principal reserves. Because hundreds of youths have participated in the military service in this country, they constitute the fundamental reserves of the FAR. The militia concept weakened a little. Who would have thought then that the militia concept would be resurrected again? And that it would be resurrected again because of the need to defend the fatherland? And with the extraordinary force with which it has been resurrected? Why? Because, even though our regular units were at full strength, even though we had enough reserves for our armed forces through the young who served in them, this however was not sufficient and I could not talk about the total incorporation of the people into defense, a basic concept of the revolution. This was not due to a whim of any kind but to the real fact that the number of arms we had available was hardly sufficient for the regular troops and for the reserves; we were not able to organize a militia again if we had no arms.

This was the situation when in 1980 new turmoil began to develop; the Yankee imperialists were no longer committed to the Vietnam war; the revolutionary movement was growing in Central America and imperialism was again beginning to cast its aggressive eyes on our country and to unleash threats of all kinds -- landings, maneuvers on our own national territory, at the Guantanamo base. We clearly saw new threats of imperialist aggression to our country, therefore we thought about how to increase our defense, to increase our force, based on our own experience and the experience of other revolutionary countries adapted to the conditions of our country; the idea of organizing the MTT emerged. This was a necessary answer to a new situation of danger but it was also an answer to the need of filling some gaps in the defense of our country which could not be covered by the regular troops and the reserves.

Right here in this plaza on 1 May 1980, the idea of organizing the territorial militia was announced. But, I repeat, this was only an idea. [applause] There were no arms for them. However, the international situation continued to be complex. A new, very aggressive administration emerged in the United States, an administration -- as we have labeled it in the past -- with a fascist mentality, an administration which has even proclaimed that socialism is something anachronistic and that it must disappear from the face of the earth. They did not say anachronistic, I believe that this Mr Reagan said something aberrant, that it must disappear from the face of the earth, that the time will have to come when socialism will be something of the past.

We have not heard such a phrase since the time of Adolf Hitler, the phrase that socialism must be erased from the face of the earth. This is very dangerous; this is the philosophy that accompanied the new administration which came to power during the electoral campaign; when the new administration came to power. It began to make threats of total blockage against the country, punishment of the country, aggressions against the country and even threats of invading the country. This put our party in a situation of having to take exceptional measures to strengthen our defense. In face of this real situation, we took the step of requesting arms for the territorial militia from the Soviet Union. [applause]

Those were the days of the second congress of the party; in reality, considering that we were requesting arms for hundreds of thousands of men and women, it did not take more than 15 days to get a positive answer. [applause] The arms for the territorial militia began to arrive in ships full of arms. The imperialists were always watching, they were always spying, observing to see what was happening around Cuba as if that were their business and not ours.

They began to raise a scandal because of the arrival of ship after ship. They were keeping the statistics; there were thousands of tons; there were more thousands. They have a habit of creating scandal. Also because of the arrival of the MIG-23's they created another great scandal. And on and on, when it suits their interests to create scandal they do so and when it does not they shut up. They utter not one word and many times nothing is published by anyone, a very strange thing. Although they cannot always control their press media, at least they are able to control the so-called sources of information -- mysterious sources that give out news information -- that also tell all kinds of lies. Like the time they insisted on calling the teachers, who were traveling to Nicaragua to teach children, a battalion of special troops going to El Salvador. Lies are their style.

Then they began to create a great scandal and said these were weapons which the Soviets delivered to us and that we would get them into Central America and deliver them to El Salvador. Can you imagine that? Those weapons, the weapons meant for our territorial militia, were to go to Central America and to El Salvador. If those weapons were to get into El Salvador the government would not last 5 minutes! All of that is absurd! [applause]

No one asked the Soviets for weapons for Central America. And it is well known that our agreement with the Soviets has clauses which state that our weapons cannot be re-exported. There have been very special circumstances throughout these 20 years when we have had to assist a specific country. At one time we gave help to Algeria. On another occasion we gave assistance to Angola. That is, there have been cases where Cuban personnel have gone [abroad] with their weapons. But there never has been a case of re-exportation of Soviet weapons. Nor has Cuba ever donated weapons to another country.

Soviet weapons have never been delivered to the revolutionary movement. We comply with our agreements. But the imperialists fabricated the story that these were weapons destined for distribution in Central America. They have talked so much about these things. They have talked about so many tons and so many thousands of weapons that, if it were true, there would be an army of hundreds of thousands of armed revolutionaries in Central America. They converted this into another of their big lies.

But yes, it is true that throughout 1981 the weapons for the territorial militia did arrive. These were not the only weapons that arrived. Later I will refer to other weapons which also arrived, not for our militia but for our FAR, that is, for our regular and reserve troops. [applause]

These imperialist threats forced us into a feverish effort in the organization and training of our MTT. It was to constitute a considerable force amounting to over 500,000 combatants. This required the efforts of all our country, the party, the People's Government, the state's central administration, the mass organizations. And it required an extraordinary effort from our FAR to organize the militia, train it, form cadres and so forth -- an extra effort along with its yearly effort that is to ensure the combat readiness of the regular and reserve troops. And on top of this came the task of organizing and training the territorial militia.

The idea was received with great enthusiasm by the people. Millions of people volunteered. And as you know, the essential principles of the militia are willingness, selectivity, mass orientation and territoriality.

We began to select the first hundreds of thousands of militiamen. But there were millions of volunteers. Truly, we did not have weapons for more. We were to meet again with the problem that there were millions of people willing to fight.

We used say, well we will give them something to do. Because although we do not have weapons factories, at least we can make mines, grenades, so that at least each citizen in this country has at hand a grenade, or two or three, if the country is attacked. [applause] And that is not an easy task. This must be well understood. It is not easy to organize and train more than half a million combatants. It was necessary to ask for a special effort from the military training centers. This had to be done to train cadres. It was necessary to work intensely in the creation of conditions, handling of weapons, maintenance of weapons, warehousing of weapons. This required the construction of hundreds of warehouses, in which the People's Government agencies had an outstanding participation. The creation of hundreds of firing ranges was necessary. It was also necessary to create tens of gunsmith shops for the repair and maintenance of those weapons.

Under great pressure and with a great effort, this miracle was realized: the miracle of organization within a very brief period of time, between 1981 and 1982, less than 2 years. That is why today our people have a mighty force which can be added to, which is incorporated into our FAR for the defense of the country. [applause]

Through the donations of workers, workers' volunteer work, collections organized by mass organizations, including the pioneers, tens of millions of pesos were collected to pay for the cost of the territorial militias. With this a new principle has been established and that is: Territorial militias are paid for directly by the people. [applause]

It was necessary to train more than 40,000 cadres, more than 40,000 officers. We now have those cadres. We now have 40,000 officers in the territorial militias. They were trained by our FAR. There are 10,000, half of them taking 6-month courses of study, another group taking the 1-year course of study. Summing up, this year of military training will see 10,000 cadres taking 6-month courses of study as well as 1-year courses. They will be qualifying in certain areas, improving their skills. It is a continuous project of training and improvement of those officers. We have more than 200 regiments, approximately 1,000 battalions of territorial militias integrated into more than 200 regiments, several divisions and this 163d army corps, which today received its combat flag. [applause] In a matter of months our defense has been enriched with more than half a million combatants from the people.

One very important thing is that approximately 25 percent of the territorial militia combatants are women. [applause] Because the military service did not draft women, there was an enormous number of women in their prime, physically and mentally able, aside from their extraordinary revolutionary orientation [applause] waiting. They are the frontline trenches of the women. Even though there are already women in our FAR, perhaps their numbers will grow in future years, especially as the women demonstrate their excellent combat skills. [applause]

As you all know, a great number of youths are members of the FAR, others are FAR reserves, others do other tasks. In the militias there are youths 16 years of age and older who, because they are studying or for other reasons, cannot be members of the reserves. There are men who, for one reason or another, are not members of the reserves, perhaps because of their age, or the work they do; it is not possible for them to be members of the regular forces.

There are students, peasants, housewives. In this way, I repeat, the revolution incorporates a tremendous force into the defense, and these are the women. Because the rest are women in their prime for military activities. [applause] Certainly there is something that must be said here. Something that experience has demonstrated. It is a fact that women observe a very strict discipline, are punctual, more so than men, [applause] both in the classrooms and in combat training.

In addition, in the territorial militias there are large contingents of students. I believe there is a full regiment of students somewhere out there. They have joined the territorial militias with great enthusiasm. What has been done in this field is amazing.

It is a great victory for the party, state, mass organizations and our FAR. But it must be understood that we cannot be satisfied and that we must follow a path of continuous training for the officers and troops. This demands dedication, discipline. There is a program of 40 hours per year of training for the troops, in addition to 10 days in mass training at the battalion level every 5 years. These training plans must be strictly observed. Once more, this demands enthusiasm and our people's spirit. We presume that the territorial militias will continue to grow. There are at least 1 million citizens in this country requesting to join the militias. They have not joined because there are no weapons for them. Perhaps some day there will be, but we do not foresee it in the immediate future.

Some people will ask: How can they recruit so many people? We could respond: Our problem is not recruiting such a large number of people, but to recruit the people who want to join the militias. That is our problem: [applause] the large mass of citizens who feel sad, who suffer because they are not participating in the territorial militias. That is why we have been able to observe with great pride the fruit of this effort and to see assembled here the militia forces which, as part of our FAR, will defend the capital of the republic in case of aggression. [applause] This means that they will defend their neighborhoods, blocks, homes and every stone of the capital city as long as they have a breath of life left in them. They know their factories, buildings and homes better than anyone else. They know them better than anyone else and are better motivated to defend them.

Furthermore, on a day like today -- an anniversary such as this one -- it is not enough to speak only of the efforts made by the MTT -- the highlight of today's events, with members representing all the militias in our country -- but we must add to this the enormous efforts made by the armed forces, with their regular troops and reserves. [applause] For them, and in view of the situation of danger, we once again addressed the Soviets asking them to advance the weapons that we were scheduled to receive in the next 5 years.

To tell you the truth, in only 2 years our FAR have received and have put to use the great majority of the weapons scheduled to be received over a period of 5 years. [applause] But let it be clear, and let this serve as a warning to the imperialists who have been counting ship after ship and estimating tons and more tons: The fact that we have received most of the arms of the 5-year program does not mean that we have renounced receiving more arms during the 5-year period if they are necessary. [applause] It's up to them if they want to continue losing sleep calculating the tons of weapons and the number of ships. Anyway, they can reach the conclusion that we are speaking seriously, and that we are a people who are seriously committed to defending ourselves and who do not underestimate the imperialists. We are not afraid of them, but we do not underestimate them. We don't dismiss the imperialist threats because we know that they are capable of many crimes and many misdeeds. We know this because of all the crimes committed here and the ones they are committing in other areas of the world, and we take the necessary measures to strengthen our defense, at any cost. Our armed forces have worked on perfecting the training courses for the regular troops as well as the reserves. The firepower of the ground forces, air force, antiaircraft defenses and the navy has increased considerably.

This effort made by the officers and cadres of the armed forces, along with their work in organizing the militia, has meant a tremendous effort as well as hard, tireless work. Preparing more cadres for the regular troops, assimilating a technology that is progressively more sophisticated and complex -- no one can imagine how much effort, how much sweat and how much sacrifice this job requires; how much work.

Moreover, in addition to successfully completing this job, our armed forces have not neglected, have not ignored for one single instant and have paid special interest, special attention, to the Cuban internationalist contingents in Angola and Ethiopia [applause] and to the different military missions that are cooperating in different countries of the world. This attention has not decreased one bit. On the contrary, it has been increased and since the imperialists were at the same time threatening in other places, it was necessary to pay more attention. Perhaps they thought that if they threatened us we would become nervous, that we would immediately recall our internationalist fighters. But no one became nervous here. That did not cause the return of one single internationalist fighter. On the contrary, if the circumstances had required it, we were prepared to reinforce them.

A news dispatch was published yesterday by the CIA, which said that Cuba had reinforced its troops in Angola. I am not going to say whether this is true or false; but if we have done it, we have simply fulfilled our duty in view of the imperialist threats. In the face of imperialist threats there can be no retreat. [applause]

In the face of imperialist threats one cannot retreat one bit, because then they are encouraged, stimulated; they get bold because they have the mentality of bullies. Their aggressive spirit is stimulated. That is why it has been the philosophy of the revolution never to retreat one bit in the face of pressure and aggression from the imperialists. Our internationalist contingents are not fulfilling missions for our pleasure or for the country's prestige. They are fulfilling a duty at the request of the countries where they are carrying out their missions, and without any material interest, unlike the imperialist soldiers who are spread around the world defending their monopolies and their economic interests; defending their exploitive interests. We are not defending any economic interest or any national interest. They entrench themselves in the countries for vulgar reasons of economic and material interests. We dig in behind our ideas and principles.

Martí said that it is better to have trenches of ideas than trenches of stone. We would say that it is a thousand times better and motivates man more to dig in behind a principle than behind a vulgar material interest. [applause]

Our forces will not stay in any country a minute longer than it is necessary for that country, and only as long as the country asks for it. Our men would not delay a minute in leaving, the moment that the country where they were on a mission asked them to leave. This is why our troops will never represent a problem for any country and will not be a threat to any foreign country. Our forces have gone on support missions to some countries; but I repeat, they will never stay a minute longer in any country that asks them to return home.

We are not defending strategic positions or national interests; therefore, it would be easy for us to leave. And this principle will always be respected, just like the principle of respect -- the most absolute respect -- for the domestic and foreign policies of the countries that have asked us for help. In the midst of this huge task, I repeat, we have not disregarded our internationalist contingents for one second.

The armed forces, it is proper to acknowledge on a day like today, have never neglected their support of productive activities either. For example there is the Youth Labor Army [applause], which will soon celebrate its 10th anniversary and which constitutes the most productive force in the country, which in the past 2 sugar harvests cut 1,322,000 arrobas. [applause] It has cleared 15,000 caballerías and planted another 4,000. And in the past 2 years more than 600 of its platoons have earned the title of millionaire sugarcane cutters. It is fair to acknowledge and express our gratitude and to point out the benefits that this force has brought to the country's economy, not only in the sugarcane sector -- although it works fundamentally with sugarcane -- but also in other activities. Yesterday we estimated that within 10 years the Youth Army will have cut the equivalent of a complete sugar harvest. [applause]

And the armed forces have not neglected political work with the troops, the ideological and patriotic motivation of the fighters, since our main strength is not in arms but in our morale, in our patriotism and in our revolutionary awareness. It lies in the men who carry the weapons. [applause] Neither the country nor the armed forces have neglected our men. We know the housing problems that many of our officers have. With efforts and sacrifices we have been implementing, and we will continue implementing, plans to modestly, with modest homes, solve the housing problem of the officers and permanent cadres of the armed forces.

I don't know to what extent our people are aware of the type of life that officers lead, the sacrifices they make, the time they are separated from their families, the existence of officers who have served several internationalist missions and the readiness of our officers to leave immediately to fulfill any task they are assigned in any part of the world. [applause] This justifies the people making an effort to improve their material life, or better yet, the material life of their relatives, who often go weeks, months and years without seeing them. This is why, together with our efforts -- and with our limited resources -- toward solving the housing problems of our manual and intellectual workers and our peasants, we should make firm efforts to solve also the housing problem of our military cadres. We know that all the people understand this, and that all the people support this. [applause]

We have talked of big efforts and big achievements. It is fair to point them out on a day like today. This does not mean that there is no critical or self-critical spirit. This does not mean at all that we don't realize our difficulties or our deficiencies. I think that revolutionaries have a certain disposition, the disposition of always being unsatisfied with what they have done, thinking that they can always do better and that man's work can be more perfect. This has to be the attitude of our workers, students, people and armed forces. We are aware of our weaknesses and deficiencies, but we will constantly struggle to overcome them.

There is a point that has currently motivated a campaign by the party. This may sound insignificant, but it is very important. This is the matter of the military registry and the corresponding documents. The fighters know what this means. Many of the people surely know this, but we have to point out the importance of a continuous updating of the military registry. I know that the comrades in the armed forces are very interested in promoting this matter. If anyone moves, this fact must be registered immediately; it must be brought up to date. If anyone acquires a new skill, this has to be recorded. If a militiaman or a worker becomes an engineer, if a student graduates, all those changes must be recorded. This applies not only to changes in a man's condition, but also technological changes. Technology must be recorded; changes in technology must be recorded, as well as problems in technology or the transfer of technology. This is very important: We need a continuous updating of the military registry documents because they are indispensable for the organization, control and mobilization of the people for defense purposes.

Be aware of the fact that defense is something that is not in the hands of an institution. It is something that is in the hands of the entire people. And who of us is not connected to defense one way or another? He who is not in the regular troops is a reservist of the regular forces or is a member of the MTT or wants to be a member of the MTT or is a member of the civil defense or is indispensable for production. Those who are indispensable for production are also soldiers. They are men who can't move from their post, not even during peacetime, and some of them not even during wartime. There are some who must not move during peacetime but must move during wartime, and there are some who won't be able to move during wartime because they must ensure services and production indispensable for the people.

Therefore, the entire people participate one way or another in defense, and this is why it is necessary -- especially for those who are members of the regular and reserve units, and the MTT, etc. -- to have their registries up to date. It would be good if the mass organizations would set for themselves in the near future goals to update military registry documents. This goes for students, workers, the federation. We take advantage of this occasion to make an appeal in this regard.

There have been great advancements in preparing the people, the state and all the institutions for defense. The president of the People's Government, the secretaries of the party and the party have prepared. The People's Government and the state central organizations have prepared. They have worked, they have prepared joint plans for the defense of the country, for any possible aggression, whether a total blockade, what should be done, surprise attacks -- which are common with the imperialists -- a war of attrition, an invasion of the country, etc; so that our country is ever more prepared to defend itself. Intensive work has been done in this regard in the past 2 years.

As you know we have also worked intensively on preparing the ground. It would not be right to forget on a day like today the huge effort made this year for an extended period of time by the construction workers. [applause] For several weeks, with their material, human and technical resources, they did engineer work to prepare the grounds. They moved dozens of millions of cubic meters of earth to improve our fighting capabilities and to protect technology and man. It is only right, on a day like today, to pay them tribute.

The defense effort has been huge. It undoubtedly represents expenditures; millions and tens of millions of hours that the workers of the country invest in defense matters, with the MTT, in the 6-month courses, in the 1-year courses, in the courses for the reserves. A continuous mobilization of workers is necessary. For this reason it is necessary to know who is really indispensable, and necessary that their registry is up to date. This demands energy and material expenditure from the country, but we cannot hesitate. Defense is costly, but it is even more costly to be unarmed and defenseless in the face of imperialism.

Defense is developed not only to repel an aggression but also to avoid an aggression. Defense is tested not only during wartime, but also in peacetime; and maintaining peace is a victory. Peace, when faced with an aggressive and treacherous enemy like Yankee imperialism, will be maintained when that enemy realizes that an aggression could be very costly; and imperialism cannot even imagine what the cost of an aggression against our country would be. It could cost it many things. [applause] So defense is developed not only for war but to prevent, to avoid, a war; to defend peace; to defend the lives of our citizens.

We don't hesitate to assign to public health whatever is necessary because we cannot allow a child or any person to die for lack of medicine, because of something material. This is a priority. We don't haggle about the resources that we devote to education, either. The revolution has been supporting education since the very beginning so that there are no children without schools and no illiterates in the country. And we cannot haggle about efforts and sacrifices to defend the national territory, the fatherland, the lives of our citizens -- to defend peace. [applause]

Imperialism, which is aggressive throughout the world, is particularly aggressive in this hemisphere, because it considers Latin America its exclusive property, its common backyard. And in this backyard there has been much misery. There is much misery here; there is much hunger, and this generates the struggle of the peoples. It generates revolutions, above all, when all the paths are closed; when the people do not have any democratic way to carry out their struggle, as has occurred for dozens and dozens of years in Central America. Ah, but the imperialists do not understand that this struggle is the result of exploitation, that it is the fruit of a historical situation maintained by colonialism, neocolonialism and imperialism. Each time, they have to find someone to blame for the revolution. It is like in the case of Cuba. To whom do we attribute our revolution? Everyone knows how the revolution came about in Cuba, and it happens more or less in the same way in the other countries.

The imperialists, and specially the current administration, view every revolution as an act of Soviet expansionism. If it is in Latin America, they say it is Soviet or Cuban expansionism. Every time it is in Latin America, we are blamed. This makes the imperialists threatening, aggressive. And recently Mr Reagan made a tour of Latin America, through some countries of Latin America.

This tour had two objectives: One was to resolve the crisis in relations between the United States and Latin America following the Malvinas war. As is known, following the Malvinas conflict, Latin America united, as a general rule, with very few exceptions, to support Argentina. Despite the great ideological differences between the Argentine and Cuban Governments, Cuba did not hesitate to give Argentina its diplomatic and political support in the wake of the Malvinas war because this was a just cause of the Argentine people, and it was a vindication of the Argentine people. [applause]

It was our basic duty to support Argentina, and we supported it in the international forums and everywhere else. And truly Argentina found a very broad international support, especially in the group of nonaligned countries.

The U.S. Government in a demagogic manner first tried to pose as a mediator, but it later barefacedly -- tearing the OAS to shreds, tearing the famous Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, to shreds -- supported an extracontinental power against the Argentine people. The United States speaks often about extracontinental interventions and considers every revolution that occurs in Latin America an extracontinental intervention, but when a real extracontinental intervention occurred, a European intervention, when a war broke out between a NATO country and a country of Latin America, the U.S. Government took off its mask and openly supported Great Britain in its conflict with Argentina, which was in a way also a conflict with Latin America.

This produced disastrous results for U.S. policy. And consequently, with a disdain for the peoples and a disdain for historical reality, they announced a post-Malvinas plan to restore their relations with Latin America. Their relations with Latin America are not affected by the Malvinas issue alone, but also by an infinite number of other factors. They proposed a plan to sweetly invite a great number of Latin American presidents to Washington, to stroke them, to flatter them, and at the same time they proposed to make a trip through South America, to Brazil and Colombia. Obviously, his fundamental interest in going there was to repair their battered political relations. But at the same time he included Central America in his tour. Obviously, the purpose there was to promote the plans to isolate Nicaragua, the plans of destabilization and aggression against Nicaragua, and the plans of control and domination in Central America.

And it was interesting to watch his tour, because no one knew what Reagan imagined Latin America to be. He really encountered new things and found things that no other U.S. President had found in Latin America, because both in Brazil and in Colombia, one must say so honestly and justly, he found statesmen who were capable of responding to him nobly and with independence. [applause] The Yankee imperialists had never before encountered such language as he did on his tour. And they dotted the i's on economic topics, on political subjects and on the Central American topic, both in Brazil and Colombia.

The same did not occur in Central America. There the U.S. disdain for the peoples and governments exceeds all limits. They arrived in Central America to give orders. In Brazil Mr Reagan tried to pose as one of the magi and made certain loan offers. But despite that, the responses he received in that country were responses that we can term correct and honorable. Brazil is undoubtedly a strong country, with a certain level of economic development, and was able to face up to him. Colombia also faced up to him. Unfortunately, the Central American countries are too weak, they have a terrible economic crisis and a total dependence on the United States. That is why they arrived there giving orders.

It was the strangest tour in the world, a tour in a steel case, an armored tour, surrounded by thousands of bodyguards and security guards, having no contact with the people anywhere. He was surrounded by thousands of escorts and security guards. He had no contact with the people anywhere. He spent only a matter of hours in Central America. Naturally, Nicaragua was deliberately excluded from the tour. He toured Costa Rica and Honduras, and there he met with different leaders. Naturally, he offered nothing specific, no specific aid, no offers. There the presidents of Honduras and Costa Rica were left with their hands outstretched because the emperor refused to give them the alms that they begged for. Apparently he thought that his divine presence was more than enough to compensate those governments that were worthy of little respect.

In Costa Rica he embraced Magana. I do not know if you know who Magana is, but you must have read about him in the papers. He is a president who was set up with rigged and unilateral elections in El Salvador, from which the opposition was excluded, the revolutionary opposition, the leftist opposition. Well, this is extraordinary, but at the same time it is customary for the imperialists. Reagan said there that he was impressed with the improvements that had been made in human rights in El Salvador, that a considerable improvement had taken place, and that consequently the shipment of arms was still justified. What he does is bring this before Congress, which has demanded that human rights be improved. He has to certify this, and it is no problem at all for him to certify this. He said that he was impressed with the improvement in human rights in El Salvador, where massacres are committed continually and tens and hundreds of persons are murdered. This is the objective reality.

However, the imperialist philosophy includes things such as this: Instead of killing 100 every week, they are now killing 99. This is extraordinary progress and justifies the sending of more arms to El Salvador for repression. This is the imperialist morality, their philosophy, in spite of all their propaganda. He certified right then that everything was improving in El Salvador.

In Honduras he embraced Rios Montt. This is another unique personality who has appeared in the Central American scene as a result of Yankee maneuvers. This is another astonishing matter: After strongly embracing Mr Rios Montt, a man who in only a few months has been responsible for the murder of thousands of Guatemalan Indians, including whole communities, Reagan said that he was impressed with the great personal integrity of Rios Montt, and that therefore military aid to Guatemala would unquestionably be resumed soon.

This is the imperialist morality, the imperialist philosophy. It reaches such extremes in its attempts to invert the truth and history that it attributes the economic difficulties of these countries to the revolutionaries. That is, everything is inverted, everything is backward. The revolutionaries exist precisely due to historical social and economic problems: the poverty, misery and exploitation caused for centuries by the colonialists, the neocolonialists and imperialism. Imperialism and neocolonialism are responsible for the frightening misery that exists in these countries. Imperialism is responsible for the bloody repression that has existed in these countries for dozens of years, for the crimes that have been committed in these countries, for the interventions in Central America, for the support of genocidal governments, for the overthrow of the democratic and progressive government of [Jacobo] Arbenz in Guatemala. These are the causes, these are the roots of the struggles of these peoples, who grew tired of enduring and decided to take up the struggle. Once in a while, even the imperialists concede that economic difficulties exist. What they do not have is the basic integrity to concede that they are responsible for the economic difficulties of the Central American people.

They look for someone to blame for these revolutions. One of the great lies made up by the imperialists about Central America is the attempt to blame the Soviet Union for the revolutions in Central America. This is related to the imperialist idea of viewing the conflicts in Central America as part of the East-West conflict. And there are some fools in the world, some ignorant persons in the world, who play into the hands of this imperialist propaganda and claim that the conflict in Central America is part of the East-West conflict. The fact is that the East has had absolutely nothing to do with Central America and the problems of Central America. This is the historic truth. The Soviets did not even know any of the present Nicaraguan leaders. During the Nicaraguan revolutionary period the Soviets did not know them. The same is true for El Salvador. The Communist Party is one of five leftist organizations in El Salvador, which are united in the Farabundo Marti Front. The communist parties have contacts with each other, but if we exclude the Salvadoran Communist Party, as an exception -- a small but militant party that does not have a large membership -- the Soviet Union did not know the leaders of the FMLN; it did not have contacts with them. The same can be said for Guatemala.

This is the most ridiculous, absurd and incredible lie. The imperialists say it every day and repeat it in the style of [word indistinct], and it is repeated by the idiots who follow the imperialist game and propaganda by presenting the Central American problem as an East-West problem and as the result of Soviet-Cuban intervention. We are in this hemisphere, we have relations with the revolutionary movements and we know the revolutionary leaders; this I will not deny. We know them. But what I am trying to say here is that it is a big lie when they try to involve the Soviet Union, when one cannot say the same of the Soviet Union in relation to the Central American revolutionary leaders. [applause] This is a deliberate lie, and it has a goal. This goal is to justify imperialist intervention in Central America.

Take Cuba, for example. When we were waging the revolutionary war, who could blame the Soviets for our revolutionary struggle in the Sierra Maestra, Moncada and Gramma, and what extracontinental country ever told us to attack Moncada or to land with the "Granma". What participation and responsibility did they have? Yes, we did have ideological influence from Europe; the whole world has this influence. For example, Christianity was not the religion practiced by the Indians who lived in this hemisphere, but after the time of Columbus they were made Christians. One way or another they were made Christians, and today they are Christians. We could say that those who speak of alien ideologies are not Christians because this was an alien ideology that was born in the Middle East. And the U.S. bourgeois and liberal ideas, as well as its constitution, came from European philosophers. Of course, it had to come from the Europeans because they had greater material, technical and cultural development. It could be said that the U.S. Constitution is an alien and exotic ideology that came from another continent. Such are the ridiculous arguments that are used to fight Marxism-Leninism. Alien ideologies -- what is an alien ideology?

And the imperialists use this lie, this alleged Soviet participation. It is the same as with Cuba. Exactly the same as with Cuba, and everyone knows it. The revolutionary movements have been developing in other Central American countries in the same manner. I repeat, the relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba came after the triumph of the revolution. The relations between the Soviets and Nicaragua came after the triumph of the revolution.

In line with all these theories, imperialism has made plans to destabilize Nicaragua and attack Nicaragua. The whole world is aware of the fact that they have invested a large amount of money to arm the Honduran Army. They are carrying out joint maneuvers with Honduras near the border with Nicaragua.

The whole world is aware of the fact that months ago the U.S. Government made a decision to destabilize and overthrow the Nicaraguan Government. The CIA was given \$19 million for this purpose, using Somozist guards who withdrew into Honduras after the triumph of the Sandinist revolution and using reactionary elements inside Nicaraguan. But the main force is the Somozists. Thousands of former Somozist guards have been gathered, organized, trained and armed to attack Nicaragua. The United States recently increased the arming of Hondurans; however, they want the Nicaraguans to remain unarmed, just as they wanted Cuba to remain unarmed.

Those plans are known now. You would have to be cynical to deny this. Even Reagan, when he is asked about this problem, evades answering it and speaks of something else. He never gives a real answer. He is always evasive when he is asked about the CIA plans to destabilize and attack Nicaragua. He gives no answer, but the U.S. press has made charges regarding this. What is happening now is not the same thing that happened at Giron. At that time, some U.S. newspapers were aware of the fact that there was going to be an aggression, and the government exerted great pressure -- and among these newspapers was THE NEW YORK TIMES -- for them not to expose these plans. Under the pretext of patriotism, they forced the press to keep quiet. Under the pretext of U.S. security, they asked the press to remain quiet, because this would affect the sacrosanct rights of U.S. security. And this caused some newspapers to lose prestige, and they were also criticized. But this time it has not been like this. NEWSWEEK has given details of the aggression plans against Nicaragua. THE NEW YORK TIMES has also exposed these plans, and so have other news media. They are therefore making plans to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government openly and shamelessly. You either get on your knees or we destroy you. This is practically the language that the United States is using in regard to Nicaragua, and after Reagan's visit, the military actions by the counterrevolutionary bands operating from the Honduran border have increased considerably, almost on a daily basis.

Just 48-hours ago a monstrous incident occurred. A helicopter transporting 75 children from an area being attacked by the counterrevolutionaries crashed as a result or because of counterrevolutionary actions. Directly or indirectly, the blame rests with the counterrevolutionary bands because of their aggressions against Nicaragua from Honduras. This helicopter crash and caught fire, and 75 innocent Nicaraguan children lost their lives. This occurred after Reagan's visit, a trip that he said he would use to speak of peace and to seek peace in Central America. This is imperialist policy.

There is no peace in El Salvador because the U.S. Government does not want peace in El Salvador. The revolutionaries have expressed their willingness to find political formulas and to seek political solutions. They have made these proposals at a time when they are stronger than ever. This is the merit they have, their contribution to try and solve the Central American crisis. But the U.S. Administration does not want it. They want the military victory of the reactionary, fascist and repressive forces; they want the annihilation of the revolutionaries. This is U.S. policy. They reject all dialogue, any possibility of political solution. I repeat, there could be peace in El Salvador. There could be peace between Nicaragua and Honduras, but if there is no peace between Nicaragua and Honduras it is because of the imperialist plans, the destabilizing plans and the plans of aggression. There is no peace between Honduras and Nicaragua because the United States does not want it.

There is no peace in Namibia because the United States does not want it. There is no peace in Angola because the United States does not want it. There is no peace in Mozambique because the United States does not want it and supports South Africa in the destabilization of Mozambique and Angola. There is no peace in the Middle East because the United States does not want it and supports the demands, the blackmail and the aggression of Zionism against the Palestinian and Arab peoples.

Imperialism responds to the people's demands and claims for independence and liberty with massacres: massacres in Angola, in Namibia, in South Africa -- against the patriots -- in Lesotho, as happened 3 days ago as a result of actions by South African commandos; in Mozambique, in Lebanon -- where entire neighborhoods such as those of Shatila and Sabra were put to the sword simply because a people from whom their fatherland, their soil, was taken away, a people who were dispersed throughout the world, were demanding their right to have a fatherland -- in El Salvador, the massacre of Indians in Guatemala, and the massacre of children in Nicaragua. This is imperialism's answer. This is the philosophy of imperialism toward the struggle of the people.

This aggressive, fascist, bloody and repressive attitude that tries to oppose the development of history, that tries to stop the march of the people, goes together with the imperialist egoism that is being manifested in all its forms, the egoism that has worsened the economic crisis afflicting the world, especially the capitalist countries. U.S. egoism has much to do with this crisis: its monetary policies; its protectionist policies; its policy restricting world commerce, credit and finances -- a situation that is increasingly involving mankind in an ever worse and more dangerous crisis.

This egoism goes to extremes. Recently, they imposed a 30 to 40 percent tax increase on handicrafts from Peru, a country with economic difficulties, a Third World country that had been exporting \$80 million worth of handicrafts to the United States. In order to cut these imports for good, the United States increased taxes on them by 30 to 40 percent. This is the type of egoistic policy they maintain toward all countries, especially toward the Third World countries, which are facing an extremely serious economic situation with a debt of approximately \$600 million.

This egoistic policy was also evident at the Law of the Sea Conference. Almost 120 countries have signed an agreement that was discussed for many years, but the United States did not sign the convention and urged other industrialized and developed allies not to sign the convention, simply because this convention establishes that all the sea areas and soil beyond the 200-mile exclusive economic zone of the countries are the patrimony of mankind. They are openly telling the majority of mankind that they are not prepared to sign the convention, and they thus implicitly confess their intention and purpose -- based on their economic resources and technology -- to take possession of international waters and soil.

This is the imperialist fact: an aggressive policy, an exploiting policy, an egoistic policy, cynicism, lies, bloody answers to the struggles of the peoples and the economic strangling of the peoples. This is what imperialism is, regardless of its propaganda, regardless of its deceit, regardless of its lies. These facts can't be hidden from the world, and even less from the Latin American peoples, and especially not from our people. [applause]

I think that these thoughts on a day like today help us understand the need for being well prepared in all fields -- in the political, ideological and defense fields -- in view of these dangers and these risks.

I have mentioned several countries where there is no peace because of the imperialists. And there is neither tranquillity nor security in Europe because of the imperialists, because of their efforts to install hundreds of medium-range nuclear missiles near the Soviet Union's borders, because of their arms buildup policy, because of their policy of terror. It is not only in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Namibia, Angola, Mozambique and the Middle East that there is no peace. It can be said that there is no peace in the world. The least that could be said is that there is no tranquillity, that there is no security, that we are on the threshold of an uncontrollable arms race and that the danger of a world war is growing; the danger is growing and it is real.

No one wants war. We don't want war. No aware man wants war. No aware man can think that today's problems can be solved by means of a world war. And peace and peaceful coexistence are principles of Marxism-Leninism. We are not removed from these principles. They are our principles, too.

The claim that this whole situation results from an alleged Soviet arms buildup is a huge lie. The Soviets lived for many years under very difficult conditions, surrounded by Yankee nuclear bases everywhere, and they were capable of maintaining their equanimity, their calm. As a result of their development, they secured nuclear equilibrium, which is what exists in the world right now. However, imperialism elaborates theories and more theories to justify its arms race based on an alleged Soviet nuclear superiority. And this is truly a theory to worry about, truly dangerous, and its forces everyone to think. What can we do for peace? How can we contribute to decreasing international tensions? It is everyone's duty, the socialist countries, the progressive countries, our country. And we will do so. But peace is also defended with firmness. Peace is defended with determination. Peace is defended with courage. As we said previously, we cannot give an inch to imperialist blackmail, pressures, threats and aggression because they become very brave, and we are not a world power. We are a small country, and we are willing to make our contribution toward peace, but we will never give up our independence.

We are not to blame for imperialist threats against our country. We are not to blame for imperialist aggression against our country. We are not to blame for their criminal economic blockade, their constant harassment. But we will always know how to give a worthy and courageous response to those risks, to those threats. We love life, but more than life we love the principles of honor and dignity and the independence of our country. More than life we love the most sacred values of man. [applause] Without honor, liberty, justice and independence, life is not worth living. That is why we have always said, and why we have repeatedly demonstrated that we are willing to die before renouncing our principles. [applause] We continue hoping that the imperialists will think, will reconsider. We continue hoping that a world war can be prevented. A world war would mean the end of mankind. We continue hoping that with the constant struggle of the peoples, and with the opinion of the peoples of the world, and with the struggle of the peoples, we will be able to tie the hands of the imperialists. And we hope that many of the problems of Central America, South Africa and the Middle East -- problems that could be considered regional problems -- will find just and worthy solutions.

Meanwhile we will continue struggling in our country. We will continue struggling toward our economic and social development, despite the difficulties. And I can't understand why the imperialists are not ashamed by all the slander they use against Cuba. I can't understand why they don't compare the situation of those oppressed and unfortunate countries in Latin America with the situation in Cuba. A long time ago illiteracy disappeared from our country. Today there are more illiterates in the United States than in Cuba. They have a greater percentage of illiteracy. We have decreased ours to practically zero, and they have millions of illiterates and semi-illiterates. How can we compare what we have here with what they have in Central America? How can we compare the levels of education, health, employment and morals, the disappearance of gambling, drugs, prostitution and begging? How can we compare the security of our citizens and the dignity of our citizens, the respect of every human being in this country, the equality and the prospects for legal and true equality of our citizens, the disappearance of all traces of discrimination and the disappearance of all traces of exploitation and social injustice? Aren't the imperialists ashamed of comparing what we have in Cuba and Cuba's success with what colonialism, neocolonialism have left in Central America? And we have achieved this with our struggle, determination, courage, decision, effort, work and international cooperation in which our unwavering and close friend the USSR plays an important role. [applause]

Recently, when the Colombian president hinted that Cuba should be integrated into the Latin American system, Mr Reagan said that this could happen only if it broke its ties with the Soviet Union. Is the logical capacity of the President of the United States weak? We are willing to live in peace with mutual respect, but we will never break our ties with the Soviet Union. [applause]

Understand well, imperialists, that we are not the kind of people who break their tie with friends to become allies of their enemies. [applause] Understand, imperialists, that we cannot be hired, bought or intimidated. This country and this revolution have followed a clean, straight and shining path, and on this path we will walk at whatever cost. This is our path and the path of the future Cuban generations. [applause]

Fellow countrymen, for all these reasons let us dedicate ourselves as never before to our work, production and struggle against economic difficulties; and let us dedicate ourselves as never before to the defense of the country in every area -- political, ideological and military. In this manner we will be able to comply with our beautiful slogan: Fatherland or death, we will win. [applause]

SOVIET NAVAL DETACHMENT ARRIVES IN CIENFUEGOS

FL101246 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] A solidary message from the Soviet people has reached the residents of Cienfuegos with the arrival of the Soviet naval detachment in that city. The official welcoming ceremony took place at the main offices of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, where the chief of the detachment, Vice Adm Vladimir Kuglyakov, and the entourage accompanying him were received. Also present at Government House was Humberto Miguel Fernandez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and first party secretary in Cienfuegos Province. During the ceremony, Reynel Regal Reyes, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government, briefed the visitors on the main aspects of economic and historic interest of that province.

SURINAMESE INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

PA101355 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Dec 82

[Text] Imro Fong Poen, Surinamese minister of transport, trade and industry, has arrived in Havana where he was greeted by Ricardo Cabrizas and German Amado-Blanco, Cuban minister and deputy minister of foreign trade respectively. They subsequently held official talks in which they broached trade matters between the two countries and their prospects for development.

JUAN ALMEIDA LEAVES LISBON FOR CAPE VERDE

FL101447 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1350 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] Lison -- Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of the Council of State, today left for Praia on a visit to Cape Verde Islands. Almeida made a stopover in the Portuguese capital on his way to that African country.

CSSR DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

FL111731 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1523 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] Stanislav Svoboda, deputy foreign minister of the CSSR, has arrived in our country on an official visit. During his stay in Cuba, Comrade Svoboda will hold talks with leaders of the Cuban Foreign Ministry and will be decorated with the Friendship Medal.

JAMAICA119 DELEGATIONS SIGN LAW OF SEA CONVENTION

FL102240 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2200 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Text] The historic Law of the Sea Conference has just ended in Montego Bay with 119 delegations signing the convention. At the closing ceremony, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced that the preparatory commission to carry out the important preliminary work under the convention would meet in Jamaica next March.

The president of the Law of the Sea Conference, Tommy T.B. Koh, who was the first and last speaker, spelled out the work of the preparatory commission and described the meeting in Montego Bay and the achievements.

[Begin Koh recording] The International Seabed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea will begin its work in March of next year. Many speakers have attached importance to the work of the commission. The commission will have to adopt the rules and procedures for the implementation of resolution No 2 of the conference relating to pioneer (?investors).

It will, inter alia, draft the detailed rules, regulations and procedures for the mining of the deep seabed. If the commission carries out its work in an efficient, objective and businesslike manner, we will have a viable system for the mining of the deep seabed. This will induce those who are standing on the sidelines to come in and support the convention.

If, on the other hand, the preparatory commission does not carry out its tasks in an efficient, objective, and practical manner, then all our efforts in the last 14 years will have been in vain.

In carrying out its work, the commission should take strict regard to economy, to the avoidance of waste and to efficiency.

In order to enable the commission to get off to an early start, I will request the secretary general and his staff to assist the commission by undertaking the necessary preparatory work.

Dear colleagues: Today is a day for celebration. We celebrate the successful conclusion of our collective endeavor. We have strengthened the United Nations by proving that with political will, nations can use the organization as a center to harmonize their actions. We have shown that with good leadership and management the United Nations can be an efficient negotiating forum on even the most complex of issues.

We celebrate today the victory of the rule of law and principle of the peaceful settlement of disputes. Finally, we celebrate human solidarity and the reality of interdependence between nations which is symbolized by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. [applause]

Dear colleagues: As a matter of human interest, it may be relevant for me to mention that there are among us today a few colleagues who have attended the first and the second UN Conferences on the Law of the Sea in 1958 and in 1960. They have requested me to announce that immediately following the close of this meeting, they would like to gather foreign group photographs for sentimental reasons. [laughter]

I have also (?met) a few colleagues from landlocked countries who have, prior to their coming to Montego Bay, never swam in the sea. [laughter]

I hope that after their stay in Montego Bay, and I hope they have acquired an appetite for seafood, they will make full use of the provisions of the convention, giving access to landlocked countries to the living resources of the economic (?resources) of their neighboring states. [laughter]

I would like to also mention as a matter of human interest, that we have another colleague among us, Minister Guzhenko of the Soviet Union, who has actually led a scientific expedition to the North Pole. And he told me that he had actually set foot on the North Pole. [applause]

Dear colleagues: I cannot conclude without expressing once again, on behalf of the entire conference, our gratitude to the government and the people of Jamaica for the warm hospitality which they have extended to us during our memorable stay in Montego Bay. I am sure that I speak for all my colleagues when I say that we look forward with great relish and expectation to returning to Jamaica in March of next year to begin a new phase of our work.

I now declare the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea closed. [applause]

U.S. MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM FUTURE SEA LAW MEETINGS

FL110200 Kingston Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpt] The UN Law of the Sea Conference ended this afternoon in Montego Bay with the three speakers at the closing ceremony being Jamaica's Deputy Prime Minister Hugh Shearer, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the President of the Law of the Sea Conference, Tommy Koh, commenting on the significance of the signing of the historic convention.

President Tommy Koh recommended that the United States of America be excluded from all future meetings of the pioneer states.

(Bobby Gray) reports from the conference center.

[Begin (Gray) relay] The chairman of the drafting committee, Mr Alan Beasley of Canada, said that there would be a meeting of the pioneer states tomorrow. At this meeting a decision on the president's recommendation would be made. The pioneer states are Belgium, Canada, France, Japan, India, the United Kingdom, the U.S.A., the USSR and West Germany.

Ambassador Koh, speaking at a press conference after the closing session, said:
[Begin Koh recording] The United States, unlike the United Kingdom and the FRG, has taken a definitive position, which is that it is against this convention, it will not sign the convention, it will not even participate in the work of the preparatory commission. The United States has taken the position that it intends to encourage its [word indistinct] to mine the seabed [words indistinct]. It seems to me that it would be therefore wrong to allow the United States, which is out to wreck the convention, to continue to participate in these [words indistinct]. Because if you allow them to do so, you are in effect helping the United States to succeed in mining the seabed outside the convention. [Words indistinct] so I want to make the point that, in my view, the convener of these consultations in the future not invite the United States to participate in such consultations. [end recording] [end relay]

BURNHAM CAUTIONS VENEZUELA ON 'AGGRESSION'

PA120106 Paris AFP in Spanish 1840 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Text] Georgetown, Dec 11 (AFP) -- Guyanese President Forbes Burnham last night warned that if Venezuela continues claiming territory from his country and committing economic aggression, it will be jeopardizing its relations with other member states of the Caribbean community.

During a speech delivered last night before the People's National Congress, President Burnham stated that "Guyana is facing Venezuelan claims for more than two thirds of its territory," and that Venezuela is continuously committing various "acts of aggression and continuously violating our airspace."

The Guyanese president said that "Venezuela, not satisfied with these actions, is using its wealth and connections to frustrate Guyana's plans to build a hydroelectric complex on the Upper Mazaruni River at a time when the entire world agrees that a serious effort must be made to exploit alternative energy sources."

He added that "Venezuela has no confidence in the justness of its cause or in the good faith of universally accepted institutions and forums." Burnham stated: "Greediness and voracity are Venezuela's only motivations. Venezuela's undeveloped territory is larger than all of Guyana, but it wants to steal the wealthiest part of our territory from us."

Burnham noted that Venezuela is trying to find friends inside Caricom by offering economic and financial assistance.

However, Burnham said in his message to the Congress, this tactic was seen for what it is at the recent Caricom summit in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. There was complete support for the present borders of Guyana, and Venezuela was cautioned that if it maintains its claims and its acts of economic aggression it will jeopardize its relations with other Caricom states.

The president of Guyana then referred to the need for spending millions of dollars on military requirements that could otherwise have been used for the development of the country. Burnham stated that Guyana eventually will win, even at the cost of great sacrifices.

In defending his policy, Burnham asked: "What is Guyana without the Essequibo region?"

Finally, the Guyanese leader affirmed that "there are foreign elements" interested in producing an internal breakdown, and these elements are spreading rumors and doubts to "destroy us."

"There is an organized effort to turn Guyana into a colony, even if it is not called that," President Burnham said. He added that a Guyanese political party is on the payroll of the Venezuelans.

This weekend the Guyanese Congress is to discuss Guyana's border problems with Venezuela.

NEW REGIME TO RULE 'SOON' AFTER COUP ATTEMPT

PA120203 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0053 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, 11 Dec (LATIN-Reuter) -- A minister of the leftwing Suriname Government announced today that a new administration will soon begin to rule the destiny of this former Netherlands colony, in the wake of the acts of violence this week the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) reported. In a telex message received here, the agency cited acting Minister Erik Tjon Kie Sim as saying that the schools and businesses will resume activities on Monday. SNA cited the Suriname military government as saying that it had smashed a coup attempt, which Lt Col Daysi Bouterse, army commander in chief, described it as a rebellion of "the economic wealthy elite" of the country. The SNA dispatch also cited Minister Sim as saying that the authorities are drafting a communique in response to the Netherlands' decision to cut off aid for the development of Suriname, a former Netherlands colony located in the northernmost part of South America, in view of the apparent summary execution of 15 [as received] arrested persons.

Acting Suriname President Fred Ramdat Misir, who is still holding the post according to SNA, will make the announcement.

The agency only identified union leader Cyril Daal and Lt Col Surendre Rambocus, one of the leaders of the coup thwarted in March, as 2 of the 15 persons killed while trying to escape. According to SNA, the WAR TJID, the only paper still being published in Suriname, said that Lesley Rahan, one of its reporters, was killed on the same occasion.

The agency's dispatch also reported that the military authorities are convinced that an undetermined group of foreigners was implicated in the abortive coup that was to have broken out between 25 to 26 December. The military authorities have closed six newspapers and silenced five private radio stations and two local new agencies in the wake of the disturbances, according to reports obtained here.

The Netherlands was accused of launching a campaign of calumny against Suriname, distorting the news that originates in that South American state.

Some of Executed Named

PA130428 Paris AFP in Spanish 0349 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 12 Dec (AFP) -- It was learned here today that according to the Surinamese Army the 32 persons executed for "plotting" in Suriname, following a military coup on Wednesday [words indistinct] while they were trying to escape while being transferred to a prison on the outskirts of Paramaribo.

A Guyanese newspaper, THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE (official), today published the names of [word indistinct] of the 32 persons who, according to reliable sources in Georgetown, were executed for having participated in the plots that the new military government claims to have smashed. According to the newspaper, two former ministers -- Andre Kamperveen, former minister of culture, youth, sports and people's mobilization; Edward Hoost, former minister of army and police; Gerard Leekie, the rector of the University of Suriname; and three lawyers, G.R. Baboeram, H.E. Reidwald and Joseph Gonsalves; were among those executed. Gonsalves was also Finland's honorary consul in Paramaribo.

THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE adds that Joef Slagveer, director of the ABC Radio Station; Leslie Rahman and Frank Wijn Arde, newsmen at ABC; two labor leaders, Cyril Daal and Fred Derby; and a Surinamese army officer, Lt Col Suredre Ramboocus, were also executed.

From another quarter, well-informed Surinamese sources said that the new Surinamese regime directed by Col Daysi Bouterse is apparently trying to form a government including both civilians and members of the military. This government might begin to operate within 15 days.

One of Colonel Bouterse's spokesmen said last night that the business establishments in Paramaribo would reopen tomorrow, Monday.

Observers said that so far this call from the military to resume commercial activity in the capital has been ignored, adding that many merchants and businessmen in Suriname have preferred to remain underground since martial law was decreed on Wednesday.

Possibility of Cuban, Soviet Troops

PA120120 Paris AFP in Spanish 0049 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Georgetown, 11 Dec (AFP) -- The Suriname military government will study the possibility of inviting Soviet and Cuban troops in if the opposition resorts to foreign assistance. This was stated today by a spokesman of the forces that carried out a coup last Wednesday in Suriname.

This small country of 400,000 inhabitants, located north of Brazil, is being shaken by an extremely serious crisis that is far from finished after the coup by Army Commander in Chief Col Daysi Bouterse, considered to be a "progressive" military man.

Those opposition forces were described by a spokesman for the military in power as an "opulent and influential elite."

"If representatives of the opulent and influential elite have any idea of resorting to foreign assistance against the military government," the possibility of inviting Soviet and Cuban troops to the country will be contemplated, the spokesman for Colonel Bouterse's regime stated.

Communications Interrupted

PA101612 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1556 GMT 10 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, 10 Dec (EFE) -- Reports received in Barbados about Wednesday's coup d'etat in Suriname indicate that there is great confusion in that South American country. The telephone and telex communications were interrupted and the borders with Guyana, Brazil and French Guiana were closed. Meanwhile, it was reported that some buildings were burned during the disturbances in Suriname.

More Than 50 Killed

PY112255 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2040 GMT 11 Dec 82

[Excerpts] Caracas, 11 Dec (TELAM) -- In what has been considered a new step toward the implementation of autocracy in the country, Col Daysi Bouterse -- the strongman of the leftist military regime of Suriname (former Dutch Guyana) -- has eliminated all remaining opposition and has forced the puppet government in Paramaribo, the capital of Suriname, to resign.

The members of the powerful National Military Council have also done away with civil and constitutional rights and have decreed martial law and a state of siege after having ordered -- without appeal -- the execution of prominent political, labor union and university leaders.

The slogan of the new rule by force established this week, in the former Netherlands colony which became independent in 1975, is to secure order and squash the reaction for the triumph of the masses.

The implementation of this new ideology meant immediate and violent death for more than 50 suspects who, shot to death in the streets of Paramaribo, shared the same fate as another 30 political and labor union leaders who tried to resist the attack and raiding of the headquarters and grounds of several antigovernment organizations in Suriname.

Cubans Reportedly Executed 30

NC130922 Paris AFP in English 0910 GMT 13 Dec 82

[Text] The Hague, Dec 13 (AFP) -- Hundreds of Cuban troops in the former South American Dutch colony of Suriname were responsible for executing some 30 people last week in a crackdown on suspected opponents by the country's military rulers, a Surinamese organisation claimed here today. The organisation Lozon, which represents the estimated 200,000 Surinamese living in the Netherlands, today said it had cabled the United Nations asking for an urgent debate on Suriname and the withdrawal of Cuban forces.

Lozon has asked the Dutch Government to immediately suspend diplomatic relations with Suriname and stop all military and financial aid to that country.

Surinamese sources here said 500 Cuban troops were quartered in hotels in Paramaribo, the capital. They had been brought to Suriname at the instigation of Sergeants Sital and Mijns, two "hardliners" in the ruling National Military Council.

The army, which has been in control of Suriname since it overthrew the elected government on February 25, 1980, stepped in last week to thwart what it claimed were plans for a Christmas coup by "intellectuals."

Army Commander Colonel Daysi Bouterse (?has been) in sole charge since Wednesday, when the army-sponsored civilian cabinet of Prime Minister Henry Neyhorst resigned.

12 Dec Demonstration 'Cancelled'

PY120230 Paris AFP in Spanish 0209 GMT 12 Dec 82

[Text] Georgetown, 11 Dec (APF) -- A demonstration opposed to the new military regime installed last Wednesday in neighboring Suriname, which was supposed to take place on Sunday morning in Paramaribo, was cancelled. Instead, another demonstration of the masses favoring the government will take place later. This was stated here today by a spokesman of the Embassy of Suriname. Asked about the antigovernment demonstrations organized by union leaders, politicians, businessmen and religious leaders opposed to Suriname's new strongman, Col Daysi Bouterse, the spokesman said those arrangements were cancelled.

During the progovernment demonstration it is expected that Colonel Bouterse will explain publicly his stand against alleged conspirators and the shooting of numerous public figures which has taken place in the past few days. The tension in the neighboring country remains high, but many people are giving their support to the military, the diplomatic source said.